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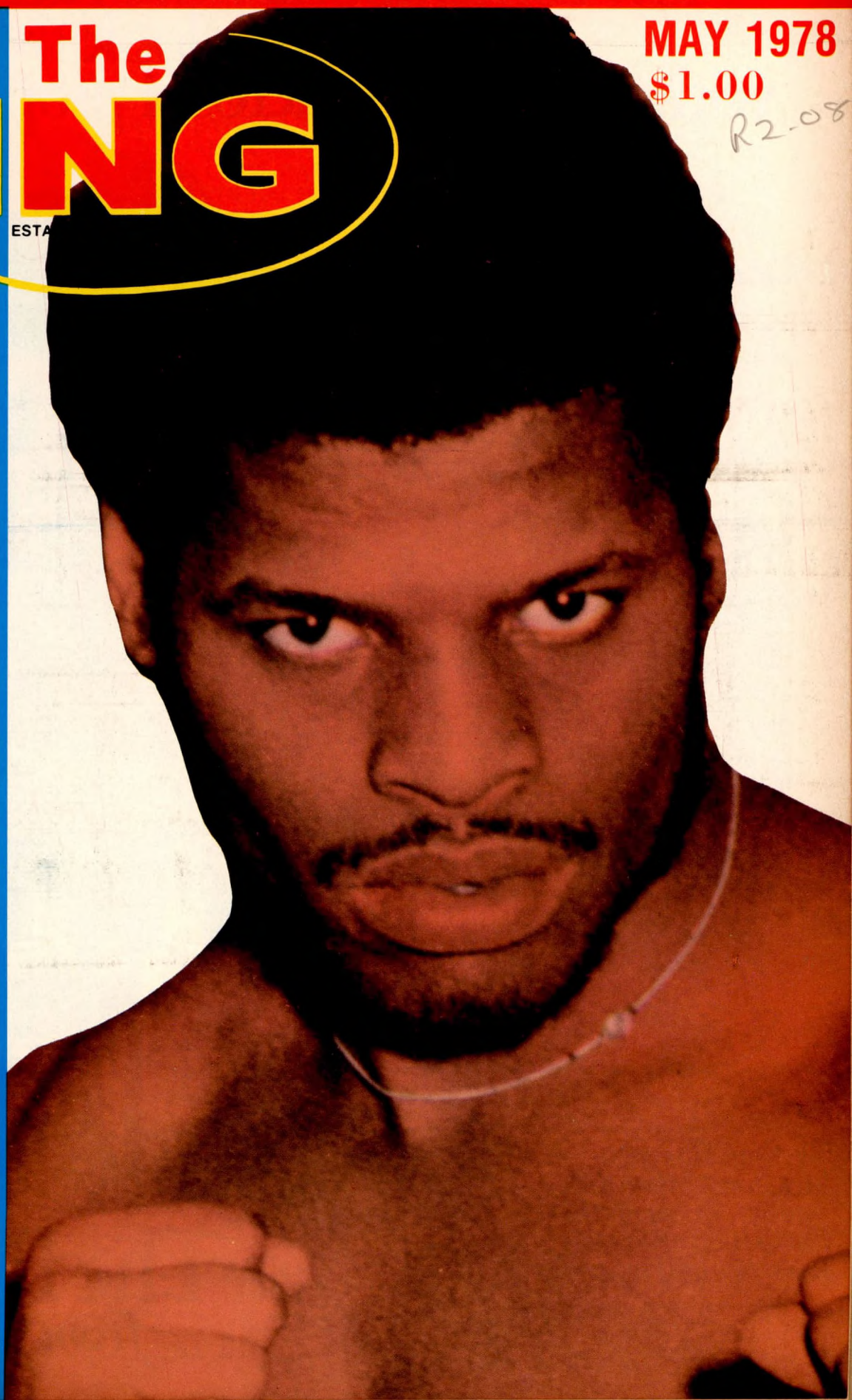

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AS I SEE IT

AN EDITORIAL

BY NAT LOUBET,

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

IN covering the boxing scene for over three decades I have seen champions come and go, often with a tug at my heart strings, often with regret and often with a feeling that the end of a reign would serve boxing in good light.

In the case of Muhammad Ali I have a warm glow at having been in at the very beginning of his career, 1958, when he won the Louisville Golden Gloves and local sports people were pointing to a new good looking kid, green as hell but coming along. "He has good moves and is fast as grease" was the comment. Ali went through the usual moves of an amateur on the way up. By 1960 he was ready for the Olympics and in a close fight won the Gold Medal in the light heavyweight class.

Around the Olympic village he became a familar figure with his camera dangling from his hand, and his big mouthed smile and carefree, flamboyant personality winning friends. He became one of the most recognized athletes in that Olympic.

With his winning came a change of managers and Angelo Dundee to train him and polish off the rough spots and actually teach him the finese with which to use all of his natural skills.

I watched Ali go through his heart rending problem with the U.S. Government when he refused to take his "big step" forward that would bring him into the armed forces. The Ring was the only publication or official body which refused to take away his title until due process of law had been completed. Our stand was proven correct when Ali beat the rap and was exonerated.

Regardless of personal feelings as to whether he should have served, The Ring staff believed that justice was the objective and it must be served.

When Ali turned pro in 1960 he was just another newcomer with a refreshing personality and Sonny Liston was the formidable contender to Floyd Patterson. Sonny was compiling an impressive record of knockouts over men like Cleveland Williams, Zora Folley, et al., which led up to his first fight with Patterson in 1962 in which he won the title by a 1 round kayo and his duplication a year later to retain his title. Liston then went on a tour of Europe and then in Miami on February 25, 1964, Cassius Clay climbed into the ring with Liston as a 7 to 1 underdog, and when he climbed out 7 rounds later when Liston failed to answer the bell for round 7, Clay climbed out as the new heavyweight champion of the world and was well on his way to becoming Muhammad and in his own terms, "The Greatest!"

In those days Ali was very approachable and visited The Ring magazine office on many occasions. On a head to head basis he was a quiet and sincere man with little of the clown that emerged as his image to the boxing fans.

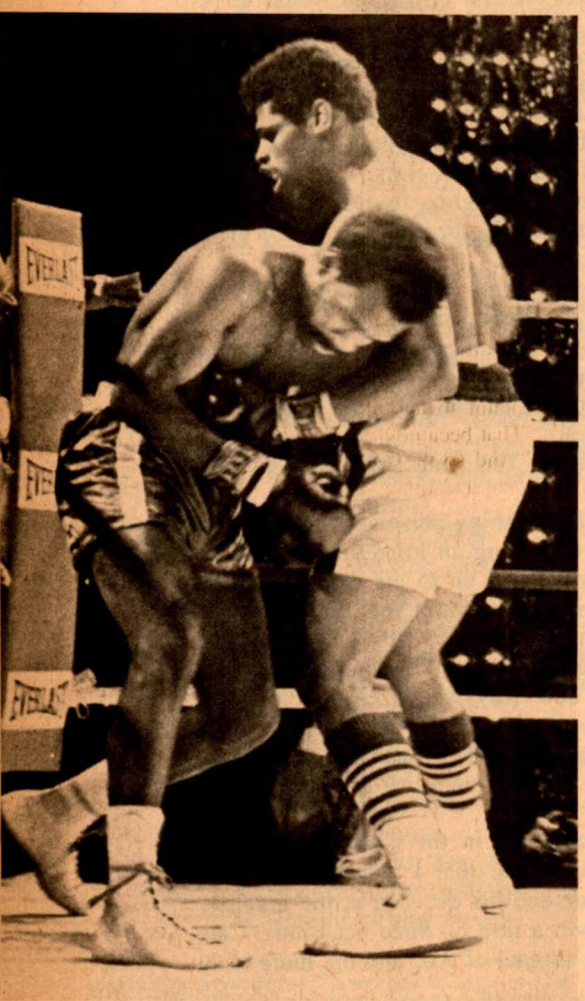
Boxing will sorely miss Ali should he not again fight Leon Spinks and in the calm light of day decides to hang up his gloves. Despite my personal feelings, often voiced, that I would like Ali to call it a day before he was defeated, I can understand his intense pride and his decision at the moment to get another shot at Spinks. He would like to be the first man to win a title on three occasions. Can he do it? Time will tell, but it is time that has dulled the once mighty arsenal of Ali, and the more of it that sifts by, the less formidable he is likely to become.

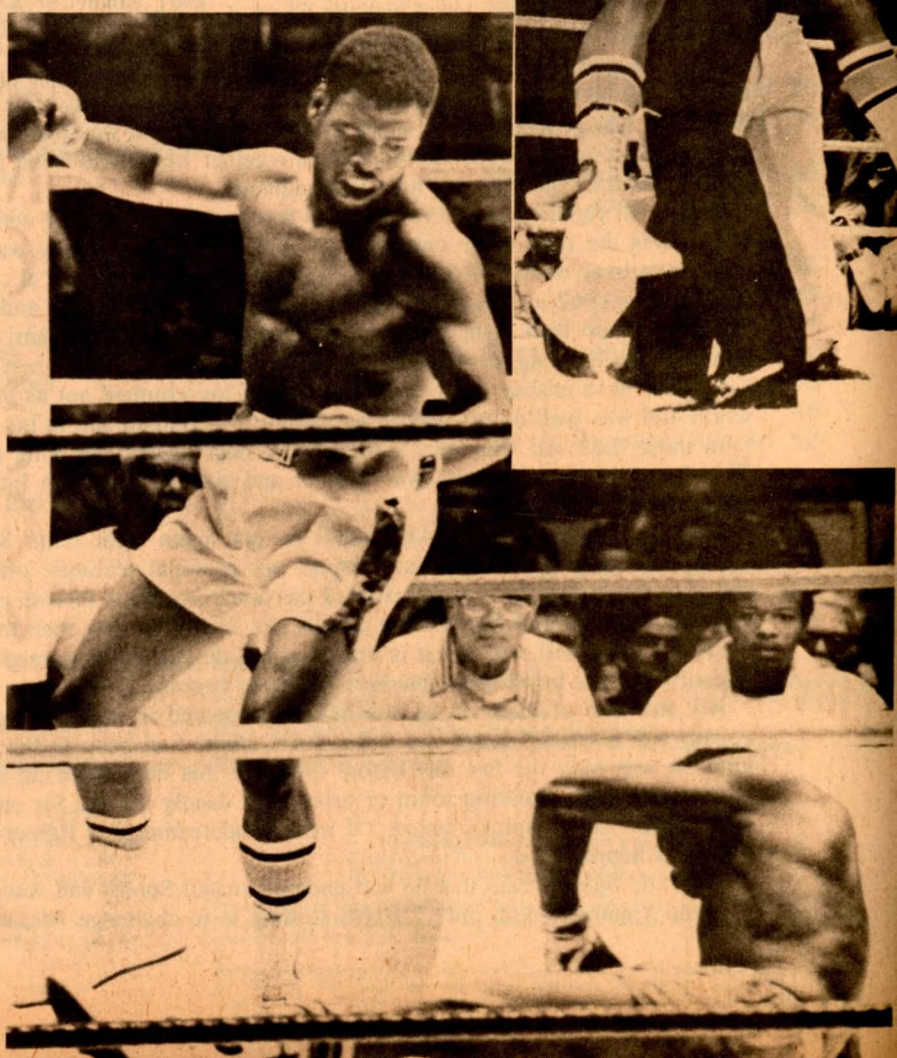
Ali, the man of many faces and moods, appeared in his dressing room prior to the fight to be clairvoyant and allowing destiny to ride. Quiet, as he had been in his training period, with no press overtures, it was only the last day before the fight that he opened up his now famous mouth. He made no predictions in the dressing room or prior; was deadly serious for one of the first times in his career and when asked about Spinks stated: "I never underestimate a fighter—they all have two hands and anything can happen."

After the fight he said that he had underestimated Spinks and wanted another crack at this twenty-four-year old youngster with only 7 fights coming in to challenge Ali, who was an 8 to 1 favorite. Ali came

(Continued on page 56)

(Above left) The spinks brothers, Leon and Michael, posed as the first brother team to win Gold Medals in the same Olympic Games in Montreal. (Above right) In his second pro fight, Spinks, left, knocked out Peter Freeman in the first round of their Liverpool fight, on March 5, 1977. (Right) Leon leaps on manager Mit Barnes after his first round over KO Pedro Agosto in St. Louis on May 7, 1977.





(Above) In Leon's pro debut, he KO'd Bob Smith, left, in the fifth round of their Las Vegas bout. The date was January 15, 1977. (Right) Spinks knocked down Bruce Scott in the second round and went on to knock him out in round three of the June 1, 1977, Montreal bout.

WHO IS LEON SPINKS?

ALI IS THE GREATEST, BUT SPINKS IS THE LATEST, SO... ALI'S "GOTTA GIVE IT UP"

Then heavyweight challenger Leon Spinks clowns with photographers in Las Vegas before his title bout with Muhammad Ali. There weren't many at the time who saw the publicity slogan as anything but a good gimmick.

By TRUDIE LOUBET

JUST who is this 24-year-old Leon Spinks who woke up on the morning of February 15 as a green ex-marine, the challenger for the heavyweight crown, with a scanty, unimpressive pro record of seven bouts (six wins, including five KO's, and one draw); who had physical equipment that gave away 27 pounds in weight, almost two inches in height and four inches in reach and who would, by the end of the day, stand in front of a bathroom mirror, the Heavyweight Champion of the World?

Most obviously, Spinks is one of five boxing gold medalists from the 1976 Olympic Games, a sudden hero both to be groomed and exploited by the powers that be in boxing and T.V., a "made-for-television challenger," as one journalist put it. But Spinks is also a study in contrasts who seemingly lives a life that sways between the recklessness of undiscipline and the powerful drives toward self reliance and proving himself.

As the oldest of seven children in a poverty stricken home in St. Louis, Mo., Leon spent his earliest years as a frail child with low blood pressure and accompanying blackouts. One doesn't need much of an imagination to guess the kind of fear with which a child of his constitution lived as he was taunted and punished by local toughs.

Boxing was a way out of that fear, to insure his own physical safety, and so at 13 he found his way to the Capri Recreation Center and began to learn the fundamentals of the "Sweet Science." However the sport also played a more important role, a psychological one. For all the supportiveness of Leon's mother, Kay, a strict, religious, protective woman, there was also the erratic and disappointing influence of his father, Leon Sr., separated from his wife, who vacillated between showering his favorite oldest son with appropriate signs of his favor and lambasting the boy with the promise that he'd never amount to anything. In Leon's own words, "That became my thing—to be somebody."

And so the struggle began. With the emotional and financial help of Mit Barnes, Leon boxed in exhibition at the age of 15 and entered his first amateur tournament as a 118-pounder. His overall amateur record came to read 185 bouts, 178 wins (133 by KO), seven losses, and included a Bronze Medal at the Cuban Games in 1974, a Silver Medal at the Pan American Games in 1975, the National AAU title for 1975-76, and the much touted Gold Medal in the 1976 Olympics, all as a light heavyweight.

All along that road, which would bring him to a world title shot against Muhammad Ali, there was the same set of contradictory behavior as Leon would go to great lengths to avoid training and ignore advice, then fight his heart out in a brawling, crowd-pleasing style in the ring. Meanwhile Spinks set up surrogate father relationships with his handlers, from his original supporter Mit Barnes, right through to Marine Coach Art Redden, Assistant U.S. Olympic Coach Tom Johnson to pro trainer Sam Solomon.

Suspicious of the frenetic world he's found himself in since winning the Gold Medal, and needless to say that will be

(Continued on page 54)

Leon spars with manager Sam Solomon. Spinks was notorious during the Olympics for trying to avoid training.

Spinks and Ali at a press conference after Leon took Muhammad's crown by split decision. "You're a great fighter and a fine man," said Leon. "Thanks," mumbled Ali, "you ain't so bad yourself."

By HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

WHAT NOW, ALI?

AT thirty-six, Muhammad Ali is a young man—everyplace but in the ring.

When Cassius Clay, as he was then known, "shocked the world" and dethroned Sonny Liston with a seven round TKO back in 1964, he weighed a beautifully proportioned 210½. "I am the greatest, I am the greatest," yelled the handsome new young champion. There were, to say the least, a lot of sceptics, but they finally became believers, as "Muhammad Ali" blitzed the "Big Cat," Cleveland Williams, fought a thrilling three bout series with Joe Frazier, and "shocked the world" again, regaining his lost title with a stunning eighth round kayo over big George Foreman.

Now, fourteen years later (and thirteen and three-quarter pounds heavier), his career—probably the greatest career in the history of sports as far as public impact is concerned—is almost over. This is the time of life when a fighter stops thinking of his future as synonomous with his career in boxing, and starts thinking of his ring career as just one facet of his life as a "mere mortal," just a man.

No sooner had the split decision been announced than Ali, minus the self righteous bravado that characterized him after his loss to Joe Frazier in 1971, said that he would like to try and win the crown again. The question is no longer whether Ali can still beat Ken Norton or decision Jimmy Young, it's whether he can get a return bout with Spinks before Leon loses to somebody Ali *can't* lick (anymore). Another question is whether or not Ali, pulling out the stops, has enough left to beat Spinks in a return. Could it be Muhammad would do worse in a return bout—that the last ditch effort he made to kayo Spinks (or win the last round big, in any event), represented all that Ali had left as a fighter, not just for the night in question, but forever?

Suppose he beats the kid in a return—he'd certainly retire then. Suppose (but this won't happen, as anyone with any knowledge of how boxing works can tell you), instead, he had to fight Norton, Young, or maybe even Earnie Shavers in order to meet Spinks again. The chances are that Ali wouldn't do it, and that if he did, he'd lose—and maybe not by a decision. Then he'd quit for sure. And now suppose, again, that Ali fought Leon a second time, and lost. The answer is the same: Muhammad would retire.

So, anyway you look at it, Muhammad Ali won't be fighting too much longer. What about his future? A lot of it depends, of course, on money, and on the Chicago Muslims. Just how much moolah Ali has is anybody's guess. The Muslims have, beyond a doubt, taken a lot of it, and taxes, alimony, and child support, not to mention a blood sucking entourage and not very thrifty spending habits, have made the champ a lot less wealthy than he could have been. Ali said, some time ago, that he wanted to retire on an income of ninety thousand dollars a month. Whether he can or cannot do so (with or without the upteen million he would receive from a Spinks return), it's almost a cinch that the man who modestly refers to himself as "the greatest fighter of A—L—L T—I—M—E," is not about to pass out of the public eye.

He's always been a controversial figure, but so were other champs, like Sullivan, with his gregarious lifestyle; Corbett, more interested, according to many, in his acting career than in boxing; Jack Johnson, who thumbed his nose at society and married a white woman, and Jack Dempsey, who was charged with draft evasion. Sonny Liston was a former convict, rumored to have retained underworld connections. None, however, had the personal charisma of Muhammad Ali, and not one among them had such a dramatic and far reaching impact on the times in which he lived. There has never been another Ali, and there never will be.

Despite his 1967 draft evasion claim that he's a Muslim minister, the chances are not likely that his religious superiors will have Ali

(Continued on page 54)

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Controversy Rages

IS MONZON THE NUMBER 1 MIDDLEWEIGHT OF ALL TIME?

By KELLY NICHOLSON

Carlos Monzon...

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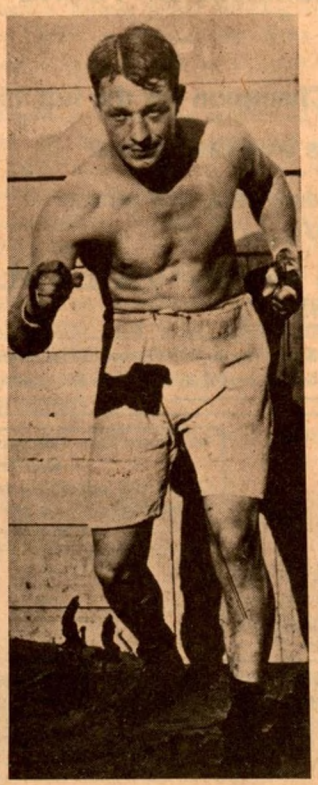
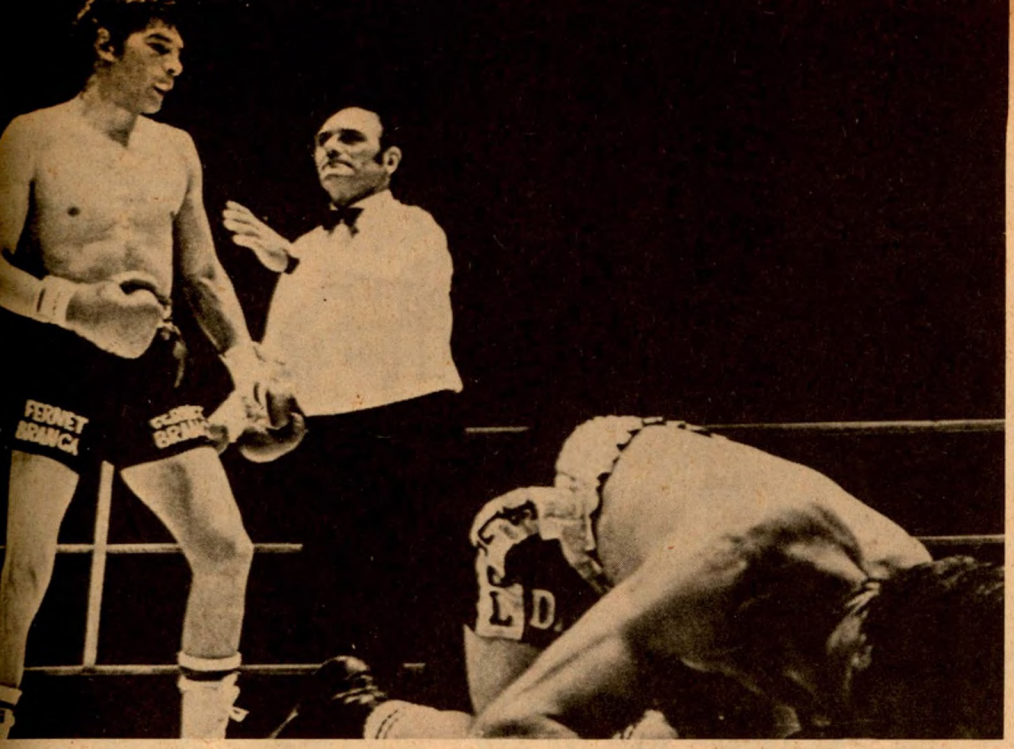


From left to right: Sugar Ray Robinson, Stanley Ketchel, Mickey Walker, Rocky Graziano and Jake LaMotta.



Danish challenger Tom Bogs tries to rise during his title fight in Copenhagen on August 19, 1972, with middleweight king Carlos Monzon, Argentina. Monzon retained the title after Bogs was decked four times in round five.

Monzon, right, won the title from Nino Benvenuti, left, on November 7, 1970, when the Argentine KO'd the Italian in round 12.

(Ed. note: This is the opinion of the writer and not that of The Ring. We welcome the comments of our readers.)

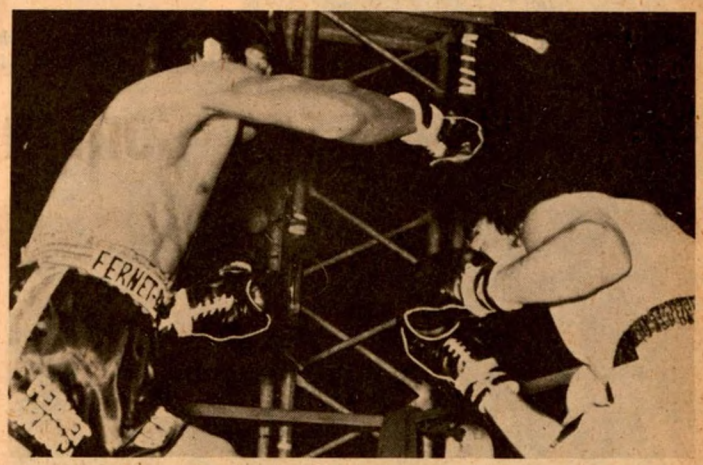
IT is the lot of a great fighter to face comparison with the best who have gone before him, and to engage in mind's-eye competition with long-remembered and bygone rulers of his division. Nowhere should this favorite pastime of hypothetical matchmaking find more fuel for debate than in the middleweight division, where boxing has found several times its share of immortals.

The past two years have seen Carlos Monzon put the finishing touches on a career which has captured the esteem of a whole fight generation and established him clearly as one of the superior figures of the present era. Seven years a champion, he is a lanky, lean-chiseled and smoothly handsome Indian whose natural advantages in height and reach have been transformed into a painful lesson in arithmetic for pretenders who have crossed the line. The question arises, how does this *macho*, 5'11" Argentine phenomenon compare in talent and stature with the most gifted of his predecessors?

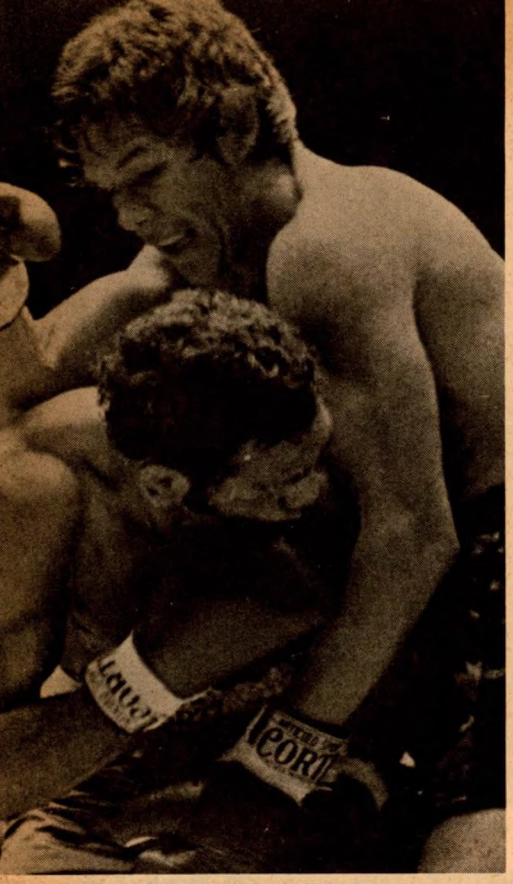
Taking some of the more deserving candidates in their chronological order, we may begin by measuring Carlos against the legendary Stanley Ketchel. While his exploits are available to most observers only through primitive film and literature, there is no mistaking the estimate of those who saw the Michigan Assassin firsthand. Nat Fleischer called Stan the best he had ever seen, a lethal hitter of catlike ferocity.

His knockouts of Jack O'Brien (once, additionally, in a bout ruled "No Decision" when the unconscious Philadelphia fighter was saved by the final bell) and Billy Papke are solid testimony of Ketchel's power; his decking of Jack Johnson in their ill-fated exhibition makes it a fair bet that Stanley's best shot could have stretched the length of any luckless adversary who made the mistake of presenting a target.

Were hitting the whole of it, Ketchel's firepower might rate him above defeat. But the greater question, of course, is whether or not he possessed the sort of cunning and ringmanship which would have allowed him the full benefit of this same talent, particularly against Carlos Monzon. Ring annals testify at length to the fact that power alone is not always the best gauge of boxing success.



(Above) Monzon went on to KO France's Jean-Claude Bouttier, right, in France in the 12th round on June 17, 1972. (Below) In a rubber match, on June 2, 1973, in Monte Carlo, Monzon went to a 15 round decision against ex-champ Emile Griffith, left.



(Above left) Monzon dominated his Australian challenger, Tony Mundine, left, and knocked him out in the seventh round of the October 5, 1974, Buenos Aires title fight. (Above right) Monzon is again victorious as referee Tony Perez holds on to challenger Tony Licata and stops the June 30, 1975, New York title fight in round 10.

(Above) On December 13, 1975, Monzon KO'd Gratien Tonna, France, right, in round five of the Paris title bout. (Below) When the WBA's champ, Monzon, left, met the WBC's champ, Rodrigo Valdes, right, on June 26, 1976, in Monaco, Monzon came away with a nod over 15 rounds to win the undisputed world title.

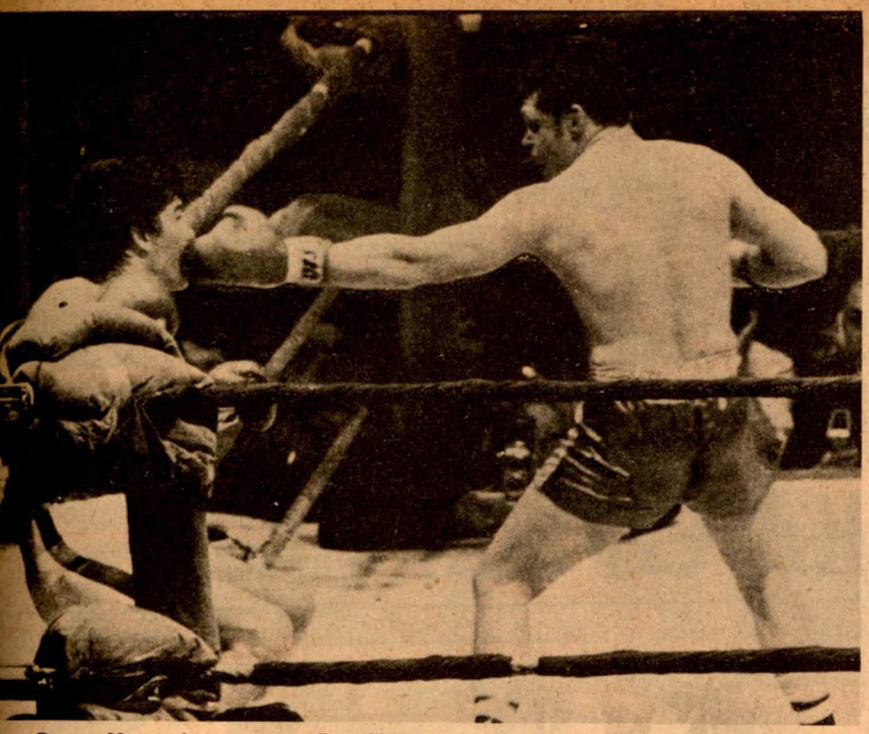
During his reign, Carlos has demonstrated the ability to cope with a wide variety of styles and types and has proven his mettle against some of the most heated competition a champion could face. A near consummate ring master, he can punish an opponent at arm's length, clinch when momentarily stunned and resume the drubbing anew. Regarding his chances with a slugger, we are reminded of his 1972 Buenos Aires title defense against Philadelphia's Bennie Briscoe. Against the shaven-headed ghetto brawler, Carlos endured a blistering assault to remain upright at the end of 15 rounds with his title secure. Wobbled twice under the attack, he met Bennie's charge with enough popping jabs and countering rights to earn the judges' overwhelming and unanimous verdict.

While not a speedster afoot, Carlos has replaced the flair of past ring artists with an uncompromising efficiency of method and a seldom-erring ring command. He has the hard, angular strength which can ravage an opponent both at close quarters and on the outside, firing the right behind his jab in the form of a cross or an uppercut, and pounding from several angles with an occasional volley. As tested by the persistent likes of Briscoe, Monzon's endurance and heart rate him even money against Ketchel.

The era of the 1920's and '30's produced a number of titlists worthy of comparison; Harry Greb and Mickey Walker are two more. Monzon, to date, has shown neither the aptitude nor the willingness of these men to battle in higher weight divisions, though results of such ambition are often both unfortunate and disastrous. It is safe to assume that Walker's two-handed aggression would have provided the Argentine with a long and lively evening, though the 5 7" Irishman would have made sore concessions in height and perhaps ring generalship.

While Greb is reputed to have been tough as tanned hide, it is doubtful whether he equalled Carlos in either ring science or punching power, and doubtful whether his equally reputed repertoire of foul tactics would have cut much ice with today's audience and officials.

Height, strength and boxing ability, in short, would make Carlos an interesting match for either man, and probably a points winner



Denny Moyer is seen sending Monzon to the ropes in the course of their March 4, 1972, title contest in Rome, but the champion rallied and came away with a KO in round five.

(Above) Along with his boxing career, Monzon was working his way into movies. Here he's seen on the set for the film "El Macho" with actress Susana Gimenez.

after withstanding the best from each.

In summary, to this point, it is unlikely that Monzon surpasses all his forerunners in the separate categories of punching power, skill and tenacity. It is, instead, his formidable combination of these and other attributes, all told, which make him worthy of such serious consideration.

More recent speculation would have Carlos mixing with such notable specimens as Marcel Cerdan, Rocky Graziano and Jake LaMotta. Picking one from this later sample, we might contrast the Argentine with ever-popular Graziano.

Three epic struggles with Tony Zale are among the reasons we remember Rocky. At 5 7" and 158 pounds, he wielded his right hand like an ax in bouts which reflected the street education of Manhattan's Lower East Side. But much of the foregoing can be repeated in comparing Monzon with Graziano. It is true that Rocky's power could end a fight at any time, and true, as well, that he generally had trouble with his better opponents until landing those same potent haymakers. Combine Monzon's own two-fisted attack with Rocky's ability to respond savagely when stunned, and one has the makings of a spectacular event. Carlos, again, rates a better than even chance in this one, ring savvy making him the choice to win on points or by late round stoppage over the siege of heavier guns.

Punchers, in fact, seem incapable of arousing the least sign of fear in Carlos, as witness his climactic pair of 15-round decisions over Columbia's Rodrigo Valdes. From their first encounter, the memory lingers of Monzon assuming command in the early seconds of the opening round with the dash and authority of a virtuoso. Expected to face his most challenging task at the hands of this murderous punching, fluid black tiger, Monzon marched to ring center and planted a staggering right on Valdes' face which impaired the Columbian's vision and set the bout's pace until the final bell. Their blood-spattered 1977 rematch saw Carlos arise from a brief knockdown to win again by unanimous decision.

So it is unlikely, in all, that any of the previously noted champions would have beaten the Argentine inside the distance. He has weathered the best efforts of his own generation with crude brilliancy and complete self-assurance. It is unlikely that any of the current crop of title claimants could force from him a show of submission, and doubtful, too, whether the rugged body-punching assault of Zale or LaMotta, each of them prone to take punishment, would have met with a much better result.

Then welterweight champion Jose Napoles, left, challenged Monzon for his middleweight crown on February 9, 1974, but the Cuban born Mexican was kayoed in the seventh round.

It remains, inevitably, to ask how Monzon would have fared against the amazing Ray Robinson, Winner of both the welter and middleweight titles, the Harlem dancing man is regarded by many

(Continued on page 46)

(Above left) Sorimachi pays attention as Palomino weighs in for the title bout. Both fighters came in at 147 pounds. (Above right) Welter champion Carlos Palomino delivers the knockout right to Ryu Sorimachi of Japan. The champ retained his title.

PALOMINO KAYOS SORIMACHI

By SHIRLEY NORMAN

SORIMACHI turned limp as Sukiyaki as "King" Carlos Palomino cooked up a kettle of trouble for his Japanese challenger in their world welterweight title bout at the Las Vegas Hilton Sports Pavilion.

Ryu Sorimachi, the Oriental welterweight champion, had journeyed from his home in Japan in an attempt to wrest the world title from champion Palomino.

The quest was as fatal as a Kamikaze mission for Sorimachi, as the 147-pound Palomino sent him into temporary oblivion at 2:03 of the seventh round.

Palomino was in his usual form as a slow starter. The first few rounds saw a dull defense by Sorimachi, and a lack-luster offense by Palomino.

The fourth round was the wildest of the bout, as the fighters exchanged flurries of punches, for the most part ineffectual.

But "The King" went into action in the sixth round, and dealt the Japanese contender some punishing body shots, so painful they were telegraphed to the ringside spectators.

Palomino followed up his "liver" shots with vicious left hooks to the head, the chin, and the body.

Sorimachi fought mainly on the defensive, attempting to cover both his head and body from Palomino's brutal blows.

The Oriental contender was seriously staggered in the sixth round, and barely made it back to his corner.

Early in the seventh round, Palomino delivered a punch to the middle of the gut that softened Sorimachi up for the kill. A continuing body attack was followed by a left hook to the chin that knocked Sorimachi into unconsciousness.

The Japanese welterweight sat on the canvas in a semi-conscious state for several minutes after the knockout, unable to make it back

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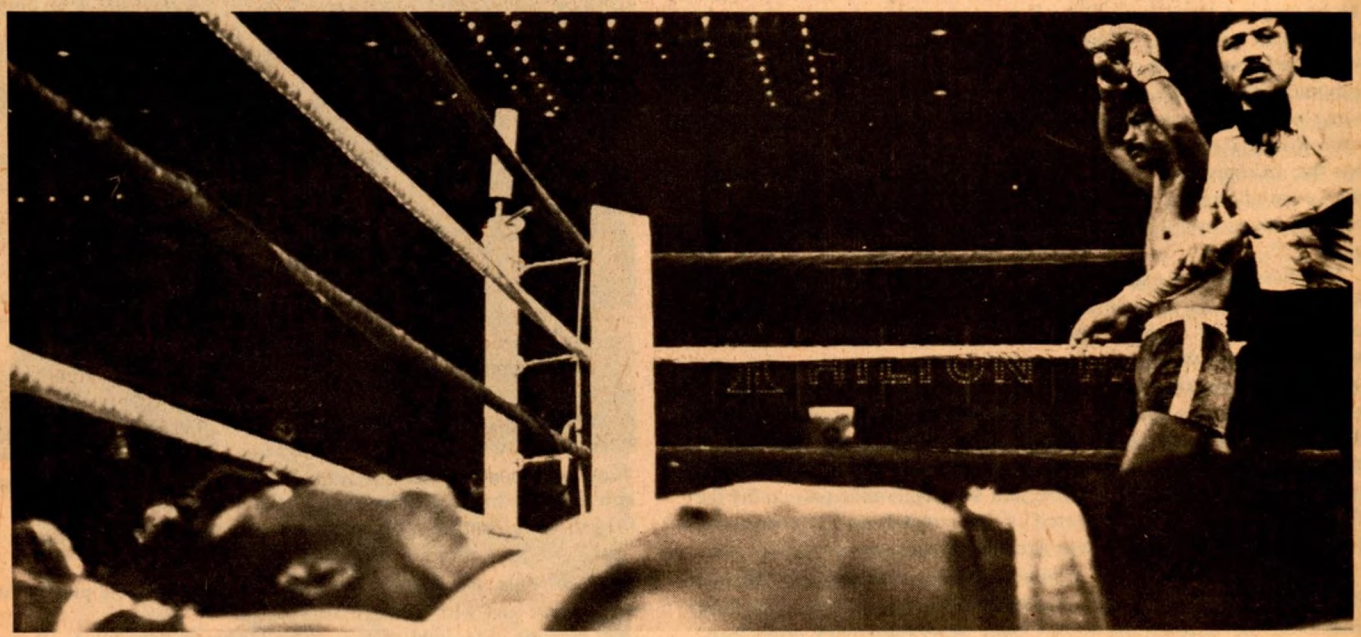
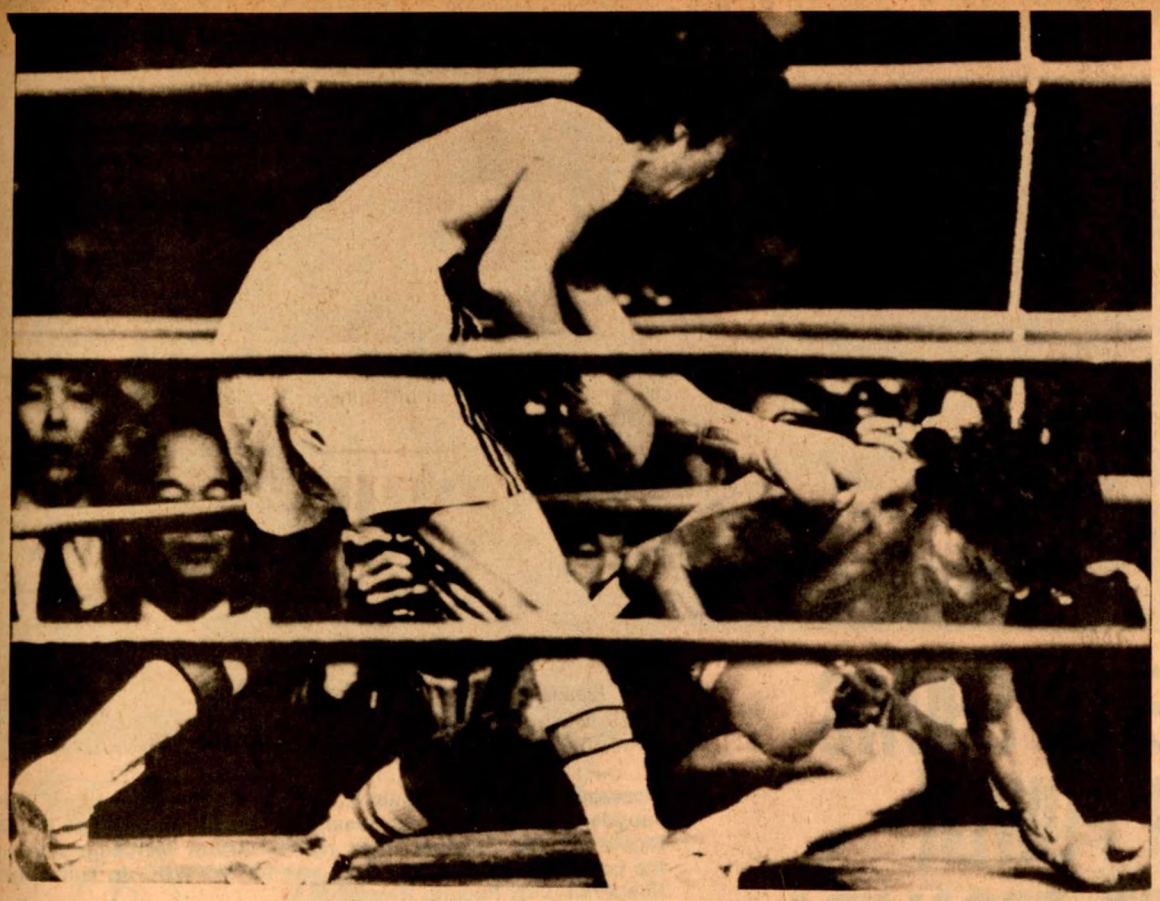
Palomino holds his gloves over his head as referee counts Sorimachi out at 2:03 of seventh round.





WBA junior flyweight champion Yoko Gushiken of Japan knocks down Filipino challenger Anacito Vargas shortly before their title bout was stopped at 0:27 of the fourteenth round in Nagoya, Japan.

GUSHIKEN BLOWS OUT VARGAS IN 14

By JOE Y. KOIZUMI

NAGOYA, JAPAN-WBA junior flyweight champion Yoko Gushiken, Japan, proved too much for Aniceto Vargas, a shorter Filipino who had lived and fought in Honolulu, battering him to a kayo in fourteen furious rounds before 10,000 spectators at Aichi Prefectural Gymnasium. Before referee Masao Kato declared a halt to save Vargas from further punishment, he had tabbed the very gory affair 130-116, while Japanese judges Ken Morita and Takeshi Shimakawa saw it 129-116 and 130-116 all giving lefty Gushiken almost perfect scores.

For the first five rounds they were too cautious to trade strong blows, so the third man had to order them to exchange more punches in round four. Vargas, who had compiled 27 wins (six by kayo) against five defeats, was recently known better as a martial arts (free style karate) battler than as a boxer.

It was, in a sense, a combat of boxing vs. karate. Despite Vargas' inferior speed and technique, which proved to be great factors as the contest progressed, he threw very solid punches. The only trouble with them was they didn't land. The 22-year-old Gushiken, three years his junior, completely averted Aniceto's occasional rights to the face by stepping swiftly and blocking smartly. It was from the sixth round on that southpaw Gushiken began to chase the right hand shooter with his vaunted combinations, one-two-threes at the jaw, to take the lead convincingly. The cool Japanese completely putpunched Vargas to win the sixth and seventh rounds by clearcut margins.

In round eight, Gushiken suddenly ceased punching to watch Vargas' reaction, studying the extent of the damage he had done. Yoko had the Filipino missing frequently. Gushiken, who had unanimously been named Japan's Fighter of the Year by the Tokyo Writers Club last December, turned loose in the ninth session, when he opened a vertical cut at the middle of Vargas' forehead. Gushiken took rounds nine and ten by scores of 10-8 points each, but cleverly refrained from coming forward too much, so as not to receive any roundhouse punches from the bleeding Aniceto. The eleventh canto witnessed Vargas battered lopsided at the ropes to take a standing eight count twice. The challenger looked groggy, and was bleeding so profusely, that he might have been expected to abandon fighting at this point. But Vargas went on gamely.

In round twelve, the performance was comfined to one neutral corner, where for almost three minutes Gushiken pummeled the peekaboo shelled Vargas at his mercy.

The thirteenth round saw the scrappy lefty pin Vargas in one corner with a well-aimed two-fisted attack to the face and breadbasket. The ref again gave another standing eight count to the weary, bloody Vargas. Desperately, the Filipino came back to toss some roundhouse rights at Gushiken, who avoided them by moving to-and-fro.

In the fourteenth session, Gushiken finally dropped Vargas to the deck, after he rushed to his rival's corner as soon as the bell sounded and exploded wicked punches at his crouching opponent. Down went Vargas. Though he attempted to fight back, Vargas' legs were rubbery, and it was obvious he was not able to continue fighting. Referee Kato waived his hands, stopping the contest after only twenty-seven seconds of the round. Even if Vargas had not

(Continued on page 63)

By MARIO RIVERA MARTINO

ARGUELLO SHOWS KO POWER AGAINST ESCALERA

ALEXIS Arguello demonstrated that pound for pound he could lay claim to being the hardest punching fighter in boxing today when he scored a bloody 13th round TKO victory over Alfredo Escalera to gain the WBC junior lightweight title.

Strangely enough, Alexis only scored one dubious knockdown in the second round and failed to score effectively with his right, missing badly on occasions. However, his left was a merciless weapon that landed with such cruelty and precision that Escalera received cuts over both eyes as well as a badly split upper lip; cuts that required 30 stitches shortly after in a local hospital.

The Escalera corner had planned for him to stay in close and not give Arguello punching room. If he were to fight at long range it would be at a distance where he could lean away from the Nicaraguan's power laden fists.

The close quarter strategy was annulled by Referee Mercante's close scrutiny of Escalera's roughhouse tactics. But the leaning worked effectively because Arguello could not reach him with his right, missing badly on occasions.

The first round was a good one for Escalera. "He hurt me early with a good right," commented the new titleholder after the fight. But after taking the first round by making Arguello miss his potent rights, Escalera suffered a (questionable) knockdown in the second.

He recouped some ground by displaying greater ring savvy in the third, but his pride must have gotten the best of him. From here on he refused to box and elected to slug it out with his heavier fisted rival. It was a big mistake and he paid for it dearly. Arguello missed many with his right, but his left was always in Escalera's face.

By the end of the fifth the champion's lip was cut, later over the right eye, then the left. Then some more work on his lip by that incessant left hand.

Referee Arthur Mercante in the tenth round wanted to call a halt, but he was overuled by Commission Doctor Amaury Capella.

To make the possibility of a halt more difficult for the ref, Escalera rallied strongly in the 11th and 12th rounds. He cut Arguello below the left eye, but at this point only a knockout could save his title as the rangy Nicaraguan was far ahead on points.

On sheer guts, the badly battered Escalera was making one of his famous late round rallies that had been so effective for him in the past. But this time it was no-go. The title was slipping from his hands rapidly and the end came at 2:34 of the 13th when referee Mercante signalled a halt at the sign of a further split of the lower lip.

All three officials had the Nicaraguan way ahead. Mercante's score was 116-111, while Californian Dick Young had it 117-110 and Mexican Jose Guerra scored it 118-112.

The Puerto Rican sock market had been taking a beating for quite a while. The week before, Esteban DeJesus lost his lightweight affair against Roberto Duran. Two months before, Angel Espada was kayoed in his effort to regain the welter crown against

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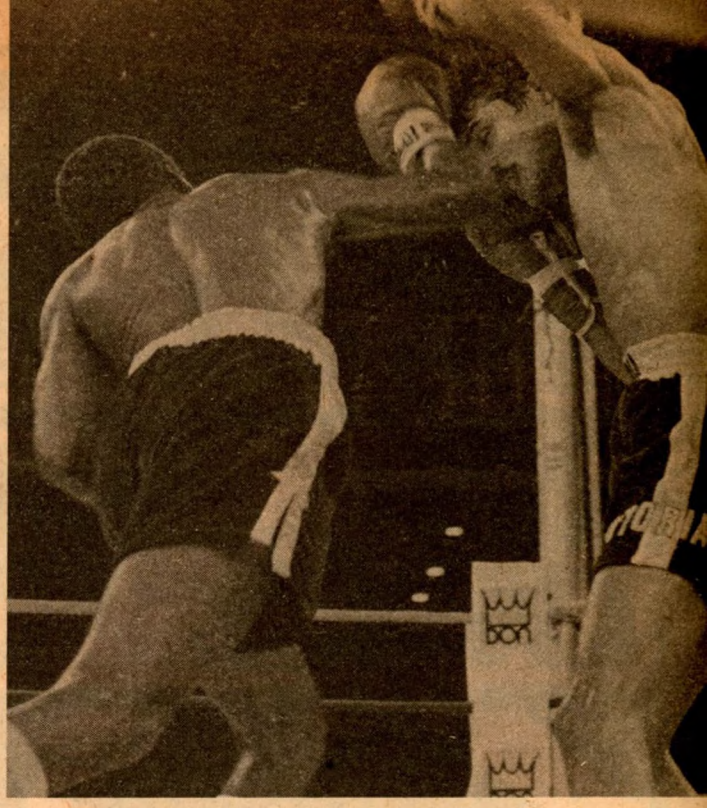
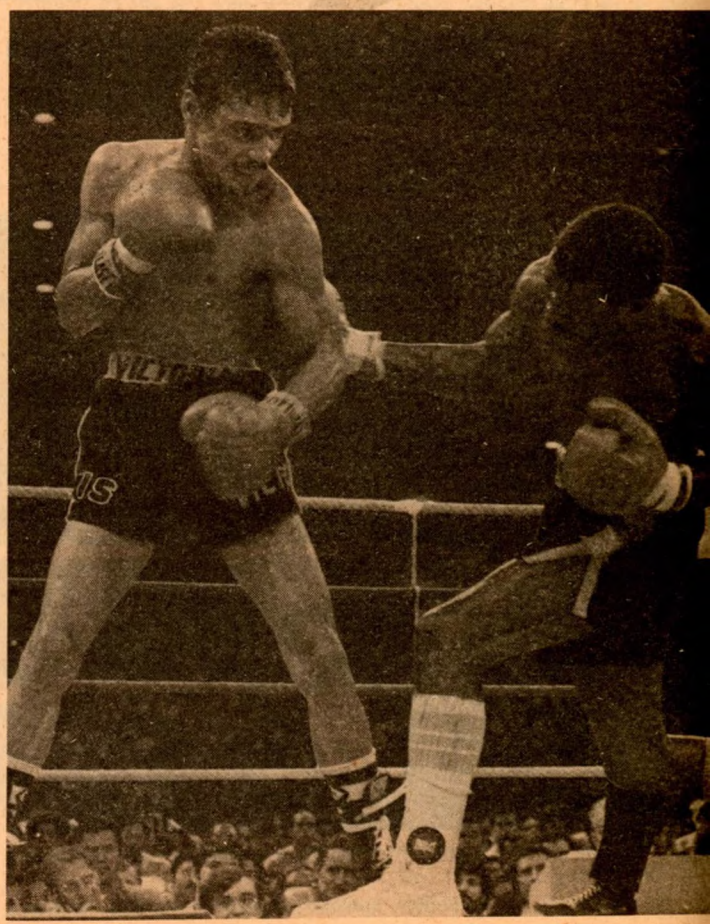
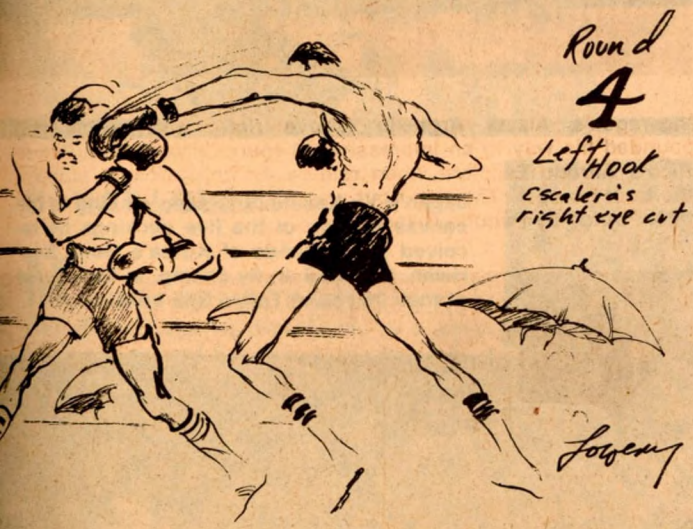


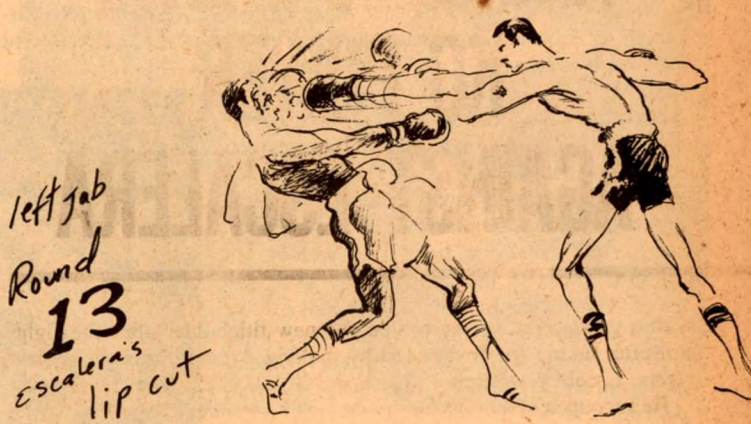


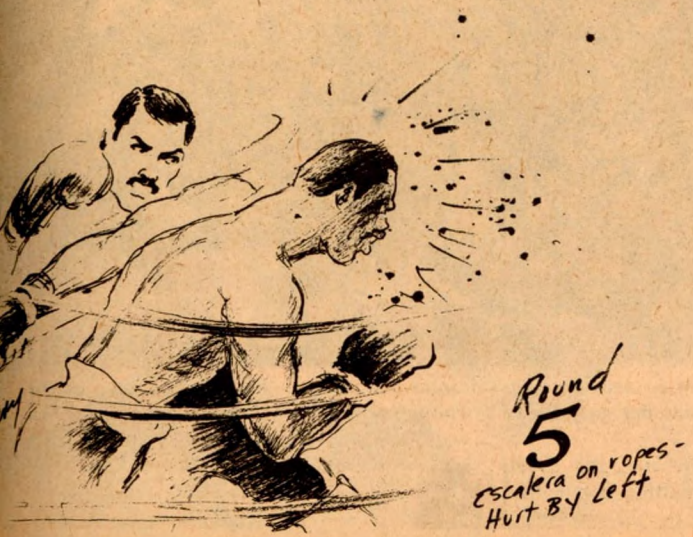
Nicaragua's Alexis Arguello (above right, and below left) pounded his way to an impressive 13 round victory over Puerto Rico's Alfredo Escalera when referee Arthur Mercante stopped the bout on cuts. The title bout was for the WBC Jr. lightweight title. Photos by Paquito Rivera.

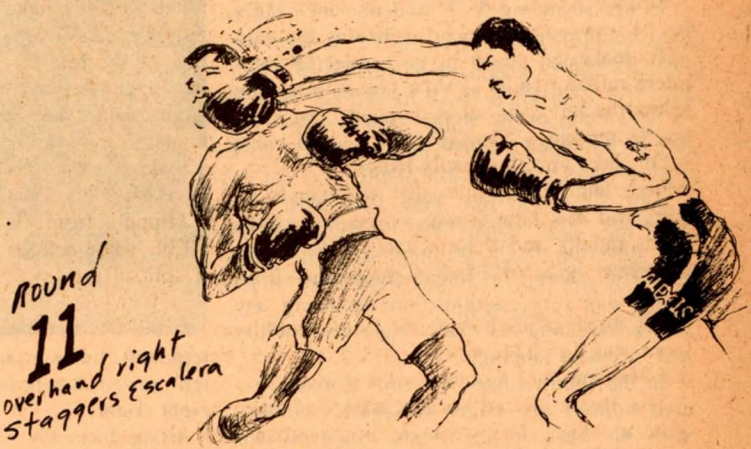
RINGSIDE WITH BOB LOWERY

New York artist Bob Lowery sketches WBC Jr. lightweight king Alexis Arguello at the Solar Gym in New York City during a pause in Arguello's training. Photo by Mario.



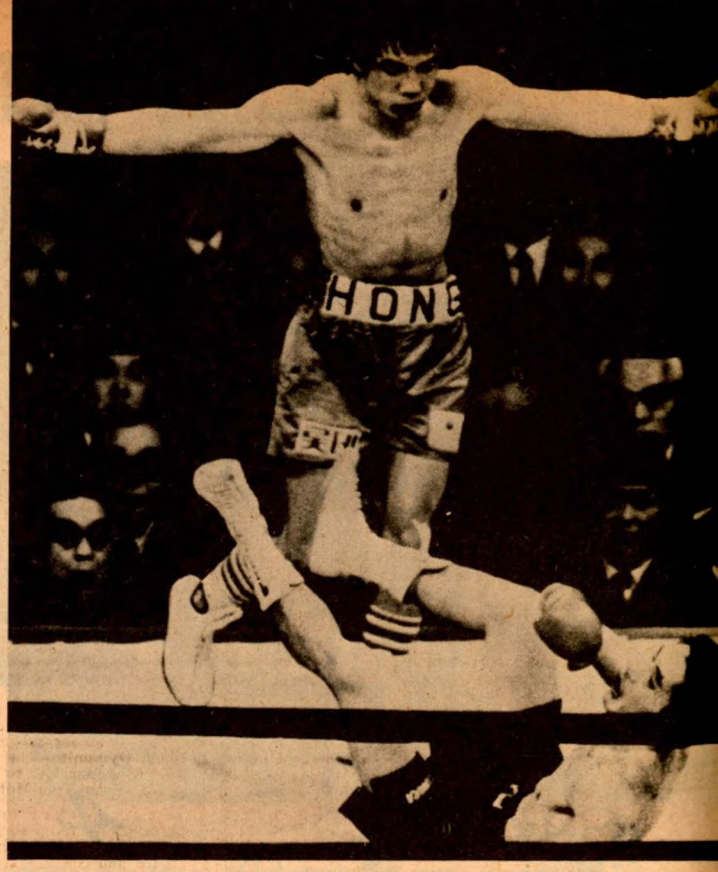


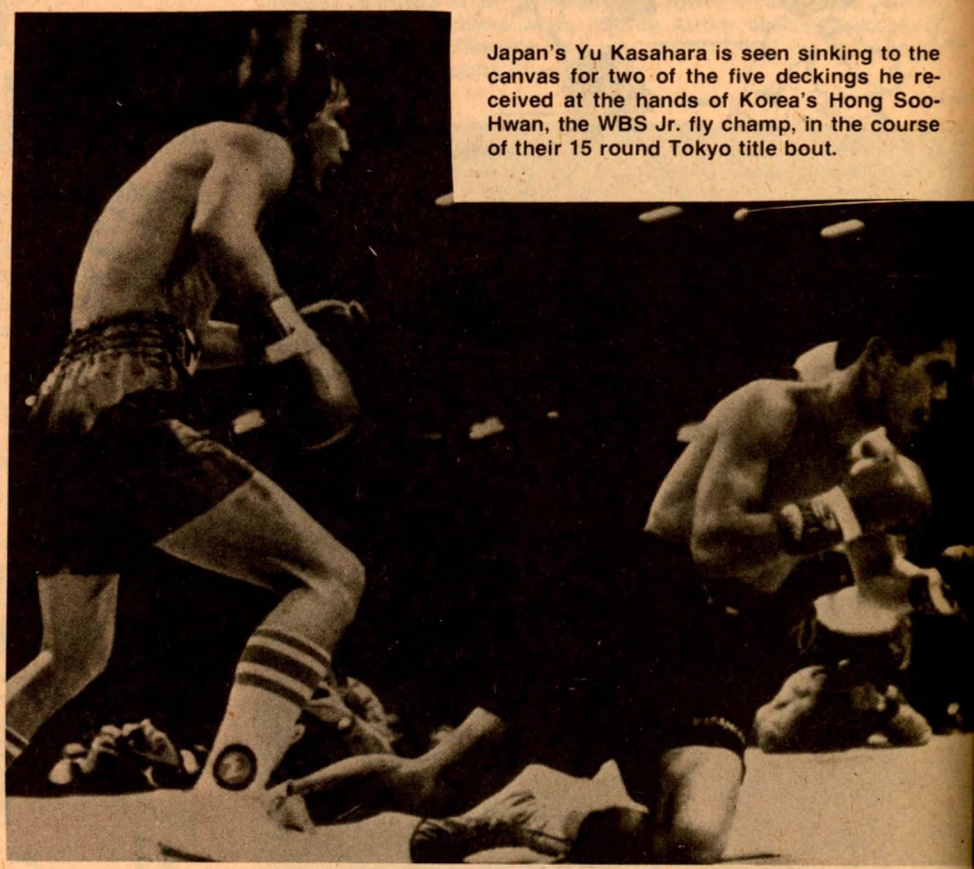




Kasahara Down Five Times As Hong Retains WBA 122 Title

By JOE Y. KOIZUMI





Japan's Yu Kasahara is seen sinking to the canvas for two of the five deckings he received at the hands of Korea's Hong Soo-Hwan, the WBS Jr. fly champ, in the course of their 15 round Tokyo title bout.

TOKYO, JAPAN—Taller Korean Hong Soo-Hwan was more ringwise, if not a better technician, as he floored Japanese challenger Yu Kasahara on no less than five occasions to win a unanimous decision in 15 heats at Juramae Sumo (national wrestling) Arena.

The five knockdowns did not mean an easy defesne for 29-year-old Hong. Soo-Hwan had acquired the WBA junior featherweight title via a surprising kayo over Hector Carrasquilla, 17 and 11-0 (all by kayo), in the third round, after being dropped three times during the previous three minutes in Panama last November.

Kasahara, 25 and Japan's champion in the 122-pound class, bounced back from every visit to the canvas to fight back and be an aggressor later in the proceedings. U.S. referee Martin Denkin and Korean judge Kim Jin-Kuk both scored the obvious affair 145-139 for Hong, while judge Hiroyuki Tezaki of Japan saw it 145-141, also in the Korean puncher's favor.

Beyond the result, the process was very interesting right up to the end. Kasahara, famous for his glass jaw as well as for his solid punching, was a former amateur boxer of Chuoh University who turned pro three years ago to compile an unblemished record, 12-0 with nine kayos.

Hong, satanding 5' 7" and one inch taller than his opponent, began to display his vaunted two-fisted attack as he connected sharply with solid shots at Yu's jaw to send him to the canvas in the second round. The damage to Kasahara seemed light, and he came back gamely to outjab Soo-Hwan.

The third session was dominated by Kasahara, who concentrated on stinging lefts and allowing Hong no room to throw his powerful shots. In round three and four, Hong was very cautious, not throwing any blows, watching his rival's vigorous mobility and incessant jabbing.

In the fourth canto, the cool Korean covered himself up against Kasahara's combos with his back to the ropes. Suddenly his short left hook had the aggressor on his knees. It was a well timed, but light, counterpunch, but was sufficient to deck the lantern jawed Japanese for another mandatory eight count.

Hong furiously swarmed over the dazed Japanese with all he had, nailing him with a barrage of wicked punches for the rest of the round. Kasahara had a narrow escape. Though we expected Hong would come forward again to pummel the challenger into submission, the veteran Korean did not toss solid shots so as to save his stamina.

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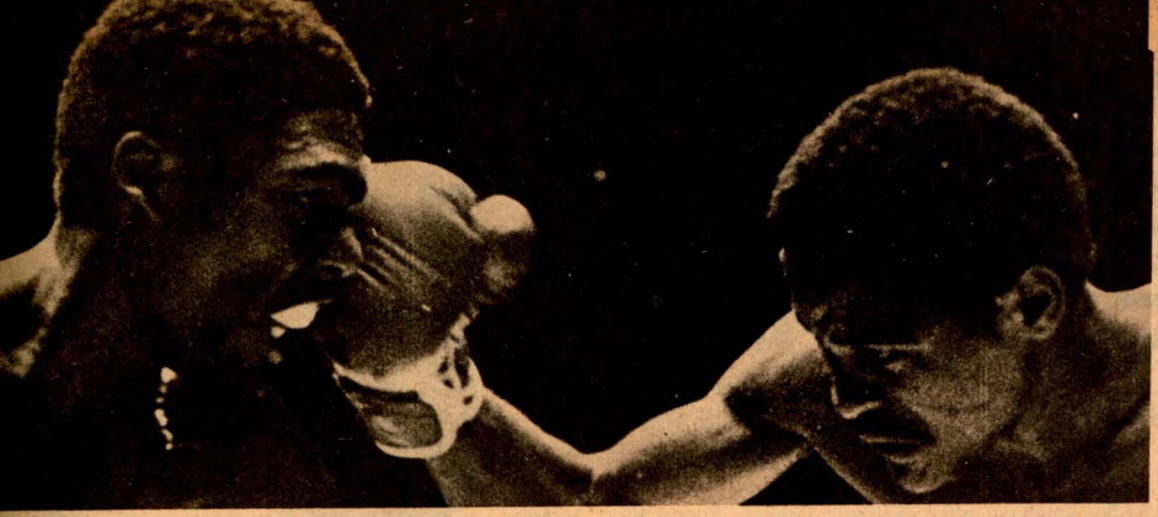
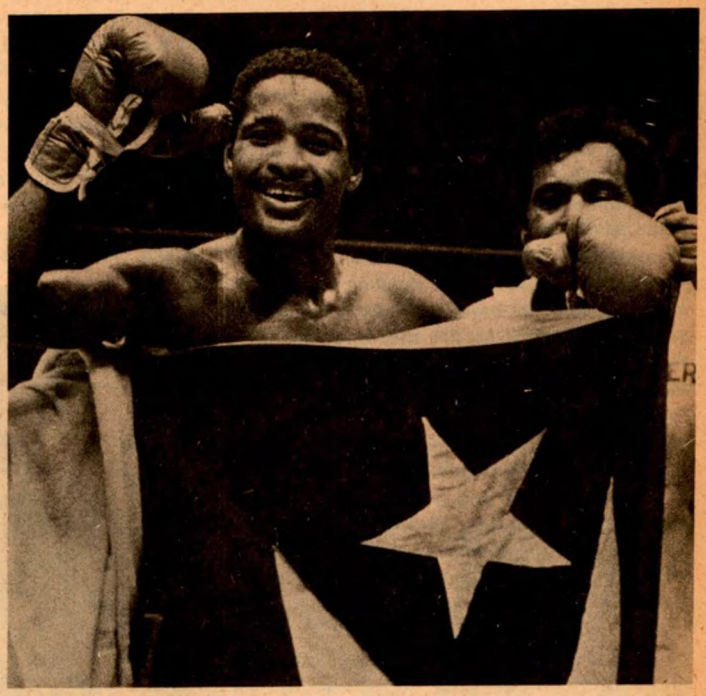


(Left) Wilfred Benitez lands a right to the head of Bruce Curry in their ten round fight at Madison Square Garden. (Below) A triumphant Benitez displays the Puerto Rican flag after being declared winner by decision.

Benitez Beats Curry, Antuofermo Over Briscoe At Garden

By NAT LOUBET



MADISON SQUARE GARDEN — A crowd of 16,125 moved through the turnstiles contributing to a gross gate of $109,746, to watch a fight card that had all the elements of days gone by, when the garden filled the halls as a matter of routine instead of as an oddity. The main event between Wilfredo Benitez, the world Jr. welterweight champion, and Bruce Curry, fighting out of Los Angeles, attracted the fans through the medium of a follow through ballyhoo emerging from the first meeting of these two in the Garden, when the decision given to Benitez after ten rounds was met with more than just a little doubt.

Their second meeting left no doubts about anything and made one wonder how Curry could have looked so good in their first encounter and yet look like an "also ran" in their second. Some suggest that Benitez took Curry too lightly the first time out and that, not being too fond of training, he was not in top condition. In any event, he was in condition the second time, and gave Curry a thorough boxing lesson. Judge Artie Aidala had it 7-3, Benitez, judge Al Reid gave five rounds to each fighter for a draw; and the referee, Tony Perez, voted for Benitez 9-1. This writer had it 7-3, Benitez.

The non-title bout saw Benitez come into the fight at 145½ pounds to Curry's 143½.

Return bouts that are born out of previous crowd pleasing action often turn out to be duds. In the first two rounds of this contest it appeared as if this could be another of those unfortunate situations in which both fighters respect each other too much. For two rounds, both men felt each other out and little action could be observed. Beginning with the third round, the action stepped up with each man attempting to draw the other into making a mistake. From the fourth round on, Benitez took charge more and more, outspeeding, outpunching and outthinking Curry, who played the part of a frustrated bull while Benitez took his role, that of the to-

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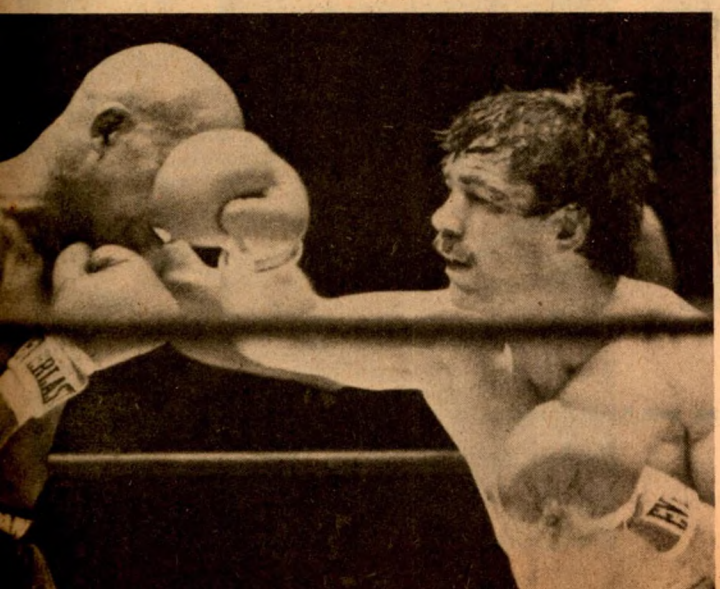

Vito Antuofermo grazes Bennie Briscoe's head with a right hand en route to a unanimous decision. Photo by Ben Sharav.

GOMEZ ICES KOBAYASHI IN RUBBER MATCH

By JOE Y. KOIZUMI

KITAKYUSHU CITY, JAPAN—knockout artist Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico, impressively displayed his vaunted power in stopping Royal Kobayashi, another hard hitter, from Japan, in three furious rounds to retain the WBC super bantamweight title before some 10-,000 spectators, who were truly surprised at the quick stoppage.

It was a sensational matching with Gomez, with 20 kayos in as many wins against only one draw, and Kobayashi, with a good 24-3 record including 21 knockouts. Each had confidently predicted an early finish, but it was the 21-year-old Wilfredo who proved his words.

Kobayashi, 28, entered the ring a quarter pound heavier than Gomez' 121½. As soon as the opening session began, the Japanese ex-champ bored in hard to throw strong roundhouse blows at Wilfredo's face. His right shot caught Gomez, whose left cheek was reddened a little. However the younger reigning champion moved so well, side-stepping and swaying back fast, to have Kobayashi's punches missing the mark. In the first three minutes Wilfredo threw mainly light jabs, seldom tossing any solid blows, while Royal was the aggressor.

In the second round, Kobayashi tried to repeat the same pattern with his specialty, left hooks, which had once carried him to the WBC title via an eighth round kayo over Panamanian titlist Rigoberto Riasco in Tokyo on October 9, 1976. Korean Yum Dong-Kyun, to whom the Japanese lost the WBC version by a controversial decision in Seoul 46 days later, was knocked out by Gomez to give him the laurels in 12 see-saw rounds on May 21 last year.

About one minute after Wilfredo retreated to avert the scrappy rival's punching, the Puerto Rican commensed throwing continual flurries at Kobayashi's midsection whenever they approached to mix it up.

Never backpedaling a step, Kobayashi punched back with full force to miss time and again. From the viewpoint of effectiveness in punching, Wilfredo was in command by a clear margin in round two.

In the third and fatal stanza, we witnessed a very stunning trick. With 30 seconds gone, the two parted after an exchange of body punches at close quarters at which point a perfectly timed left hook exploded at Kobayashi's jaw.

For an instant the bearded challenger looked bewildered, as if his opposition had suddenly disappeared, then collapsed face first onto the deck. It was such a short snappy shot that some of the partisan crowd did not see it and could not understand what caused Royal to collapse.

The sturdy contestant managed to stand up

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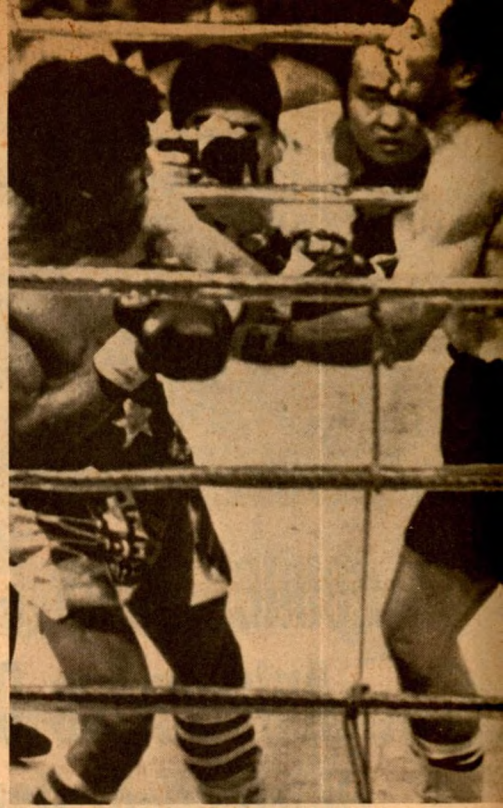


(Above) Royal Kobayashi, Japan, has his head snapped back by a hard left hook thrown by WBC Jr. feather champ Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico. (Left) Gomez poses for The Ring photographer.

Kobayashi, on the canvas, was KO'd in round three of the Kitakyushu City title bout.

KNOETZE UPSETS BOBICK WITH THIRD ROUND KO

By JOHN ORT

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA—The boxing world was shocked when a policeman from Pretoria, South Africa, Kallie Knoetze, kayoed Bowlus, Minnesota's Duane Bobick in three rounds before 40,000 fans at the Rand Stadium.

Duane, on a comeback of sorts, went to Johannesburg for what his managers felt would be an easy payday, but this proved not to be the case, as Knoetze took charge from the start, gave Duane a terrible pounding and cut his left eye in the first two rounds.

The South African connection must have felt their man had a good chance to upset the American when they offered him a $70,000 purse, and Knoetze justified their judgment when he caught Bobick with a looping right to the left side of his face and the American, obviously hurt, went down. Although he was up at the count of nine, a dazed Bobick turned and walked slowly toward his corner, unaware of the actions of the referee, who was counting out the Bowlus fighter on his feet.

Bobick weighted in at 213¾ to Knoetzee's 211.

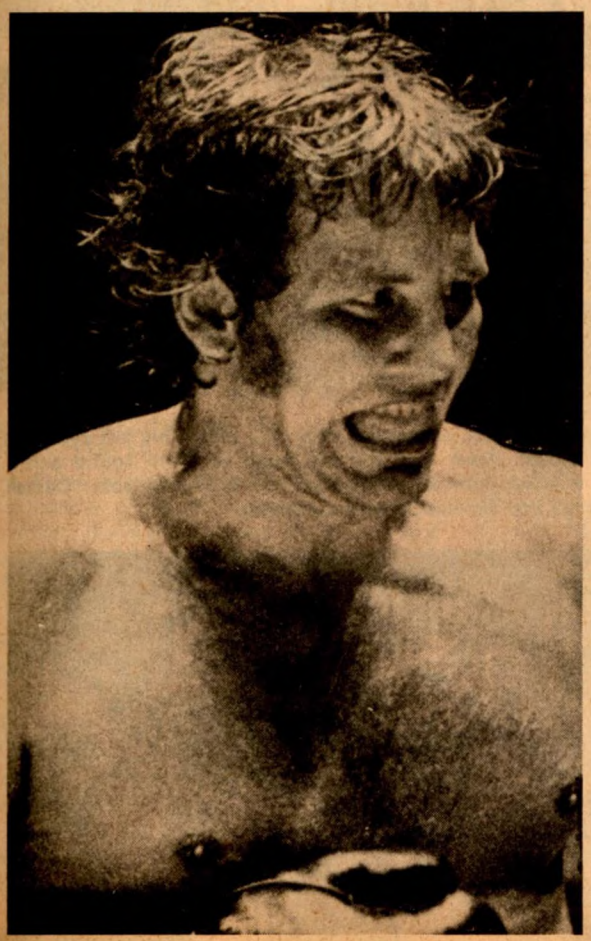
What's next for the young South African? With a record of 14-2 and this win over Bobick, it would seem that the boxing world is open to him. His two losses were to South American heavyweight king Raul Gorosito, Argentina, and to the current South African heavyweight champ, Gerrie Coetzee, who is undefeated in 19 bouts.

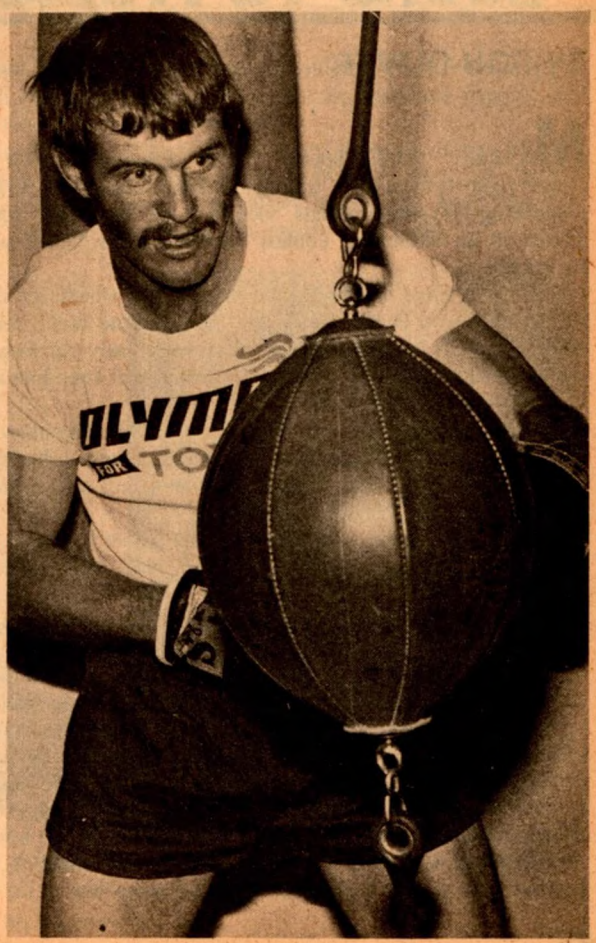
Knoetze and his manager, Billy Lotta, stopped in New York on their way to Las Vegas for the Ali-Spings fight to talk to Al Braverman about Kallie's future.

A quick look at Knoetze's record shows wins against Raul Gorosito in a return match, Mike Schutte, Richard Dunn, and Jerry Houston. Known as a big puncher, 12 of Kallie's 14 wins were via the kayo route. Since the Gorosito loss was revenged, the only thorne in the title aspirent's side is his ten round loss to his countryman, Coetzee.

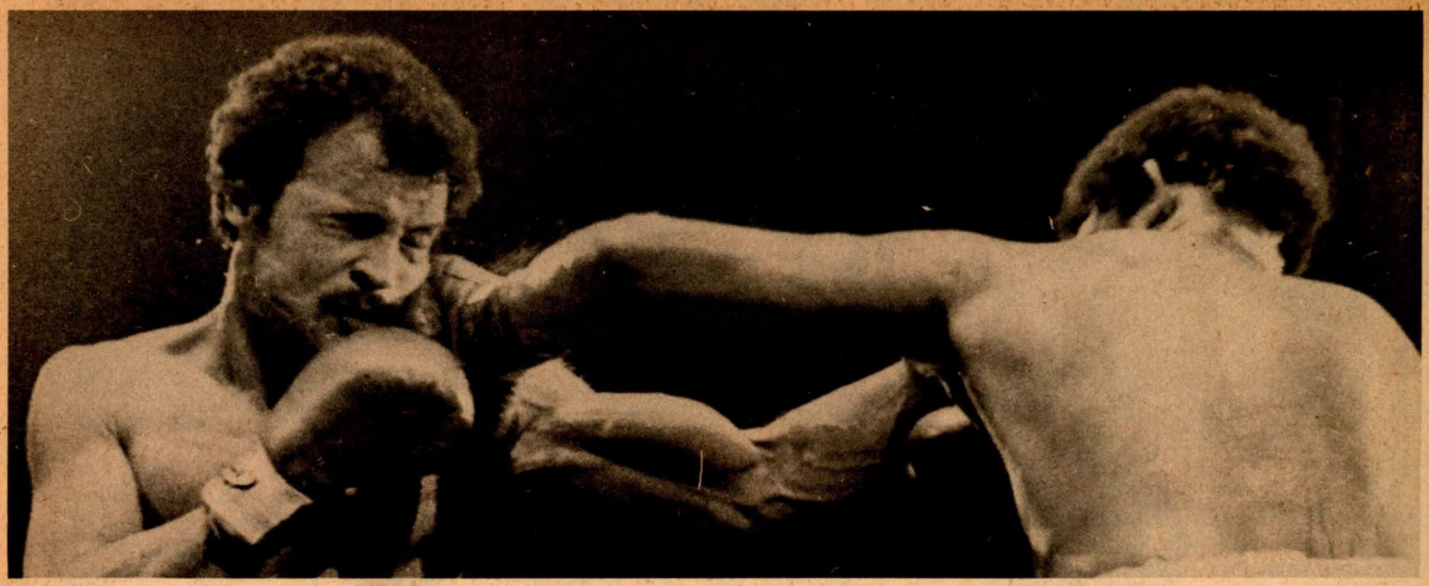
There are two questions which arise concerning Koetze: who actually controls him and how does he stack up against Coetzee as a world class boxer at this point.

Time will tell.





(Left) Duane Bobick, Bowlus, Minn., was counted out on his feet in round three of his Johannesburg heavyweight fight against Kallie Knoetzee, South Africa (right).



Joe Cokes lands a hard left to the jaw of former W.B.C. light heavyweight king John Conteh. Cokes, brother of former world welterweight champion Curtis, lost a ten round decision.

CONTEH CUT IN BEATING COKES, LOOKS TO PARLOV

By RON OLIVER

MICHAEL Sobell Sports Centre, London—Former W.B.C. world light heavyweight champion John Conteh, 179½, won a convincing ten-round points victory over American Joe Cokes, 176½, in an interesting contest between two ringmen who knew their trade.

Referee Roland Dakin scored it 100-90, which indicated that Conteh had won every round. But the scoreline didn't tell the full story of a fight in which Conteh sustained a nasty cut under the left eye that required seven stitches, and which will keep him out of the ring for two months.

It was Conteh's first bout for nearly a year, and there was the obvious ring-rustyness in the early stages. Later, John warmed to his task and put in a final round that had Cokes able to do nothing but try and protect himself.

The American boxed on the retreat the whole time, but produced an accurate left jab, counterpunched well and showed good ringcraft.

It was the first promotion at this marvelous sports complex, and promoter Eddie Thomas, the former welter champ, had every reason to be pleased with the outcome.

Former world welter champ Curtis Cokes was in brother Joe's corner, looking very fit. He has certainly passed on some of his boxing skills to Joe, who was an unknown quantity as far as most British fans were concerned, but was specially recommended by Angelo Dundee. "He'll go the distance whatever happens," said Angelo, who was right as usual.

Cokes was a shrewd choice as the first opponent in Conteh's comeback to try and regain the crown he never lost in the ring. Joe

(Continued on page 56)

(Above) Conteh, left, sustained a bad cut under his left eye in the seventh round. John and Joe are seen in ninth round action. (Below) A disappointed Cokes and a victorious John Conteh, shortly after the decision was announced.

Sugar Ray Leonard, left, and Howard Davis, right, who are seen being presented with Tanquery Achievement Awards by John Heilmann, president of Somerset Importers, were starred on televised bouts that proved disappointing.

Leonard, Davis, Win TV Mismatches

By JOHN ORT

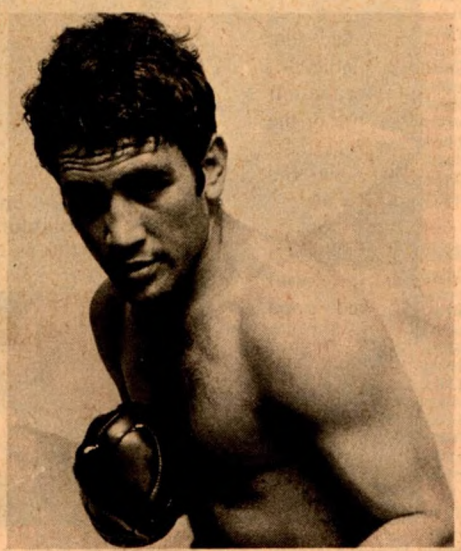
TWO of the heros from the 1976 United States Olympic boxing team, "Sugar" Ray Leonard and Howard Davis, again failed to give any clues as to their future success in pro boxing in televised bouts against, respectively, Rocky Ramon and Jose Fernandez.

Both fights were disappointing, especially the ABC bout. According to ABC sports commentator Howard Cosell, Ramon is the tenth rated welterweight. One wonders who, exactly, lists Mr. Ramon in the top ten in the welter division, since The Ring does not rank him in either the world or U.S. welter rankings, the WBC does not list him in their top twenty, and the WBA lists Leonard at the bottom of their top ten.

The best description of the Leonard-Ramon affair came from ABC's own man, Howard Cosell, who called it "a gross mismatch." This writer calls it a crime against the boxing public as well as against the fighter himself, who should be facing gradually stiffer competition and working his way up the pro ranks.

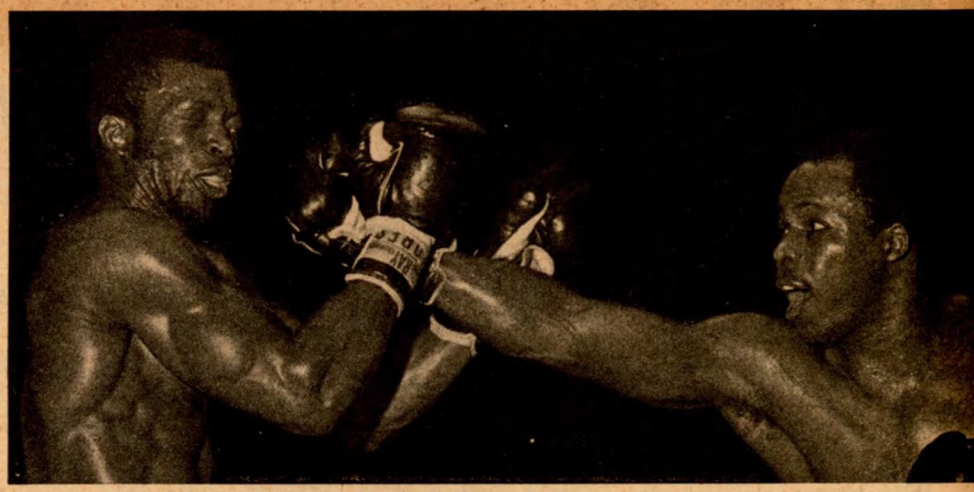
Regarding the CBS match between Howard Davis and Jose Fernandez, let us say that Fernandez is more highly regarded in boxing circles than is Ramon, but is still not in the same class as Davis at this time. In Fernandez' last outing, he lasted less than one round against WBC junior lightweight king Alexis Arguello. (That was before Alexis won the title.) Again, one is forced to ask just how and why this match-up was put together—in the old days of TV boxing, a fighter had to win an important bout to get on national TV.

In this era, when network ratings are the motivating force behind what the public sees, it is clearly neither the boxer nor the public whose interest is at stake.



(Left) Jose Fernandez lost a lopsided decision to former Olympic champ Howard Davis in a ten round bout seen over ABC. (Right) Rocky Ramon, Texas, was trounced by Sugar Ray Leonard in co-feature.

Ward Beats Weaver for California Heavy Title



Heavyweight Stan Ward throws a straight right to the head of Mike Weaver on the way to a 12 round unanimous nod in Sacramento, Cal. Photo by Harry Rosenbluth.

By CHRISTOPHER COATS

SACRAMENTO—Stan Ward captured the vacant California heavyweight title with a unanimous 12 round decision over Mike Weaver at the Sacramento Civic Auditorium. Ward dominated the early rounds, but Weaver caught fire in the closing frames and came close to dropping his opponent.

The card was promoted by twenty-two year old Steward Katz, a newcomer to the boxing business, and despite overly generous payments to the fighters, the show turned a profit due to energetic promotional work. A crowd of 1746 paid $17,777, of which $11,000 went to the fighters. Promoter Katz was encouraged enough to plan future cards.

The main event presented the fans with the first opportunity of seeing Stan Ward fight in his hometown in three years. Ward came into the fight with an 8-1-2 record; the loss coming in his last outing against Ron Lyle, via a split decision. Because Lyle had four times as many fights as Ward, the loss hardly lessened the hopes that many held for the Sacramento heavyweight. But Ward's victory over Weaver will do little to enhance his reputation, even among his fans.

Weaver, from Los Angeles, is a "reborn" fighter who weights an even 200 pounds and has a 14-6 record. He has won his last eight fights, five by knockout, with his best win a decision over Pedro Lovell. Weaver has gained confidence and dedication as he's matured over the past three years. But Ward, who weighted 240, was expected to have little trouble with his much smaller opponent.

But Ward's weight availed him very little after five rounds. In the initial rounds, Ward, whom fans have nicknamed "The Avalanche", was able to muscle, jab, maul,

(Continued on page 60)

Love Is Bad News for Wallace

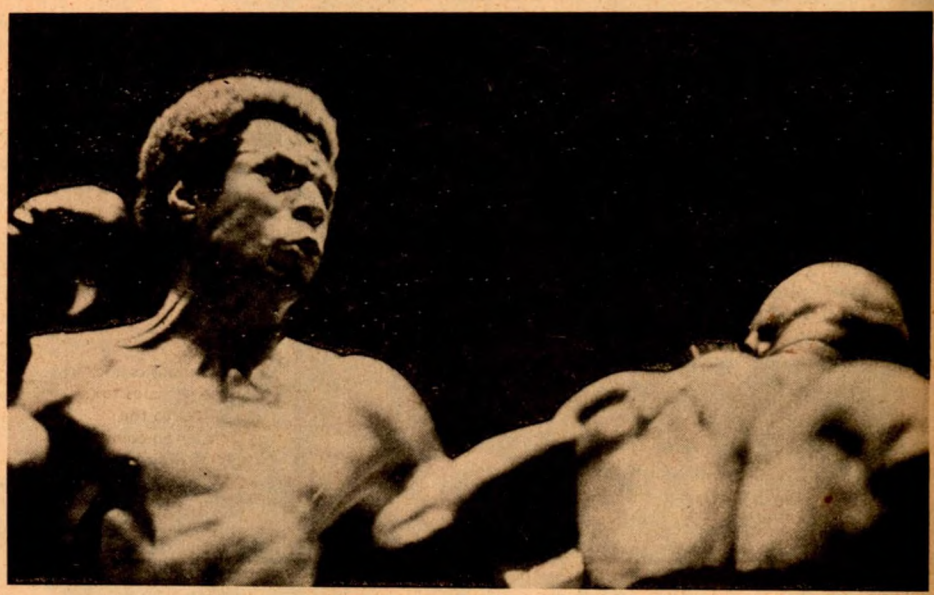
By ARTHUR REMBERT

SAN Diego middleweight David Love was able to carve another notch on his glove by virtue of a fifth round kayo over Edgar Wallace of Phgunix, Arizona. Wallace, who is nicknamed "Bad News" because of the message that he brings his opposition, was "good news" for Love. Love, according to knowledgeable fight people who have seen him work, has the tools to go all the way, but whether he will or not is entirely up to him.

Wallace, who was fighting in his hometown of Phoenix, was undefeated in ten bouts and appears to be a real comer. In this bout, however, he was in with a seasoned professional who has in excess of forty fights under his belt. The difference between teacher and pupil was evident as Love controlled the pace from the second round on.

Wallace more or less made the fight with his non-stop aggressive style, but Love's

(Continued on page 55)



San Diego's Dave Love prepares to slam a right to the head of Edgar "Bad News" Wallace, Phoenix, Ariz., in the course of their middleweight bout. Love knocked out Wallace in the fifth round to mark Wallace's first loss in 17 pro fights.

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___ 4050 - Official Competitive Headguard	48.00	36.00
___ Size: Small, Medium or Large		

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___ 4401 - Single white para rubber mouthpiece	$1.20	$.90
___ 4404 - "Everguard" Double white para rubber mouthpiece	3.40	2.55

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___ 4444 - Top Professional Ball Bearing Swivel	$20.00	$15.00
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___ 4450 - Herringbone Tape Handwrapping	$3.50/pr	$2.63
___ 4451 - Woven 2" soft Elastic Handwrapping	6.00/pr	4.50

FIGHT GLOVES:	List	KO Price
___ 2106 - Top Pro Safety Guard 6oz. Fighting Gloves	$86.00/set (4 gloves)	$64.50
___ 2108 - Top Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	90.00/set (4 gloves)	67.50
___ 21086 - Extra Large Pro Safety Guard 8oz. Fighting Gloves	94.00/set (4 gloves)	70.50
___ 2110 - Pro Safety Guard 10oz. Fighting Gloves	94.00/set (4 gloves)	70.50
___ 21106 - Extra Large Pro Safety Guard 10oz. Fighting Gloves	98.00/set (4 gloves)	73.50

ROBES:	List	KO Price
___ 4385 - Top Quality (¾ Length) Satin Robe	$40.00	$30.00
___ 4387 - Top Quality (Full Length) Satin Robe	48.00	36.00
Full length satin robes are in stock in		
___ Black & White and White & Black		
___ Special Order: Specify solid or color combination		
___ 4380 - Custom Tailored (¾ Length) Velvet Robe	132.00	99.00
___ 4382 - Custom Tailored (Full Length) Velvet Robe	154.00	115.50
___ Special Order: Specify solid color or two color combination		
___ Size: 36, 38, 40, 42 or 44.		

TRUNKS:	List	KO Price
___ 4411 - Top Quality Satin Trunks	$11.00	$8.25
___ 44116 - Extra Large (38-40) Top Quality Satin Trunks	13.00	9.75
Color Selection - in stock colors -		
___ Black & White, White & Black, Blue & Gold, Red & White, Blue & White and Green & White		
___ Sizes: S (26-28), M (30-32), L (34-36) and XL (38-40)		
___ 4415 - Luxury Velvet Trunks	42.00	31.50
___ 44156 - Luxury Velvet Trunks over size 32	47.00	35.25
___ Special Order: Specify solid or color combination		
___ Size: 26, 28, 30, 32 or 34.	4.00	3.00

T-SHIRT:	List	KO Price
___ 4344 - Everlast T-shirt	$6.00	$4.50
___ Size: XS, S, M, L, XL		

PRO CUP:	List	KO Price
___ 4461 - Top Pro-Foul Proof Protection Cup	$80.00	$60.00
___ 4460 - Pro Foul-Proof Protective Cup	70.00	52.50
___ 4462 - Foul-Proof Protective Cup	50.00	37.50
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___ 6627 - Complete 22' X 22' Ring Elevated Platform 20' X 20' Rope Size	6,500.00	4,875.00
___ 6628 - Complete 24' X 24' Ring Elevated Platform 20' X 20' Rope Size	6,800.00	5,100.00
___ 6612 - Floor level Ring	780.00	585.00
(All Rings FOB Missouri)		

SHOES:	List	KO Price
___ 4433 - 10" White leather boxing shoe	$42.00	$31.50
___ 4435 - 10" Man-Made leather boxing shoe - RED, WHITE & BLUE	24.00	18.00
EXTRA CHARGE for sizes over 12	3.00	
___ Size_____, in stock - 6-14 in half sizes		

PLATFORM:	List	KO Price
___ 4266 - Professional/gym 30" platform	$320.00	$240.00
___ 4262 - Champion home 30" platform	75.00	56.25
___ 4249 - Budget Platform Kit	50.00	37.50
		(plus freight)

STRIKING BAG:	List	KO Price
___ 4200 - Top professional leather speed bag	$42.00	$31.50
___ 4201 - Professional leather speed bag	40.00	30.00
___ 4202 - Super leather speed bag	38.00	28.50
___ 4207 - Horsehide heavy duty striking bag	40.00	30.00
___ 4212 - Capeskin heavy duty striking bag	36.00	27.00
___ 4210 - Capeskin speed bag	28.00	21.00
___ 4220 - Double-End Cowhide Bag	46.00	34.50

STRIKING BAG GLOVES:	List	KO Price
___ 4305 - Top professional bag gloves	$34.00/pr	$25.50
___ 43056 - Extra large size	36.00/pr	27.00
___ 4307 - Horsehide bag gloves	22.00/pr	16.50
___ 43076 - Extra large size	24.00/pr	18.00
___ 4308 - Gymnasium bag gloves	16.00/pr	12.00
___ 43086 - Extra large size	18.00/pr	13.50
___ 4315 - Punch Mitts	40.00/pr	30.00

TRAINING BAGS: BOXING & KARATE	List	KO Price
___ 4520 - Top grade leather - 80lb. training bag	$290.00	$217.50
___ 4541 - Champion leather - 50lb. training bag	170.00	127.50
___ 4543 - Champion canvas - 70lb. training bag	88.00	66.00
___ 4544 - Champion canvas - 40lb. training bag	68.00	51.00
___ 4545 - Karate Training Bag - 40 lbs.	$66.00	49.50
___ 4548 - Karate Training Bag - 80 lbs.	98.00	73.50
___ 4552 - Karate Kick Board - 2' X 2'	30.00	22.50
___ 4554 - Karate Kick Board - 2' X 4'	44.00	33.00
		(plus freight)

TRAINING GLOVES:	List	KO Price
___ 2512 - Top pro 12oz. training glove	$100.00/set (4 gloves)	$75.00
___ 2514 - Top pro 14oz. training glove	104.00/set (4 gloves)	78.00
___ 2516 - Top pro 16oz. training glove	108.00/set (4 gloves)	81.00
___ 2412 - Professional 12oz. training glove	70.00/pr	52.50
___ 2414 - Professional 14oz. training glove	74.00/pr	55.50
___ 2416 - Professional 16oz. training glove	78.00/pr	58.50

SKIP ROPES:	List	KO Price
___ 4496 - Ball bearing leather skip rope 8ft. (for boxers up to 5' 10")	$10.00	$7.50
___ 4497 - Ball bearing leather skip rope 9½ft. (for boxers over 5' 10")	11.00	8.25

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WORLD RATINGS

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HEAVYWEIGHTS
(over 175 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

LEON SPINKS ..... St. Louis, Mo.
1—MUHAMMAD ALI† ..... Chicago, Ill.
2—KEN NORTON ..... San Diego, Calif.
3—JIMMY YOUNG ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
4—LARRY HOLMES ..... Easton, Pa.
5—KALLIE KNOETZE ..... South Africa
6—RON LYLE ..... Denver, Colo.
7—EARNIE SHAVERS ..... Warren, Ohio
8—DUANE BOBICK ..... Bowlus, Minn.
9—ALFREDO EVANGELISTA ..... Spain
10—GERRIE COETZEE ..... South Africa

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(not over 175 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1—VICTOR GALINDEZ* ..... Argentina
2—JOHN CONTEH ..... England
3—ALVARO LOPEZ† ..... Stockton, Calif.
4—MATE PARLOV** ..... Yugoslavia
5—MIKE ROSSMAN ..... Turnesville, N.J.
6—MATT FRANKLIN ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
7—BOBBY CASSIDY ..... Brentwood, L.I., N.Y.
8—VONZELL JOHNSON ..... Kalamazoo, Mich.
9—MIGUEL CUELLO ..... Argentina
10—EDDIE GREGORY ..... Brooklyn, N.Y.

CARLOS PALOMINO
FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

THIS month's award goes to world welterweight king Carlos Palomino, who scored a KO victory over Ryu Sorimachi in defense of his title in Las Vegas.

Other top fighters of the month: Kallie Knoetze, Alexis Arguello, Wilfred Benitez, David Love, Danny Lopez, Yoko Gushiken, Wilfredo Gomez, Hwan Hong-Soo and Matt Franklin.

Knoetze, South Africa, kayoed Duane Bobick and moved from seven to fifth as Duane fell from four to eight. Ali becomes number one, with the other men each dropping down one spot.

Philadelphia's Matt Franklin's kayo victory over Richie Kates moves him into the sixth place in the light heavy rankings, while Kates falls out of the top ten. Gregory's win over Burnett makes him number ten, while Jessie drops out of the ratings.

Big changes in the middles: David Love stopped Wallace, Love now four, Wallace ten; Antuofermo beat Briscoe, Vito moves into the fifth spot, while Benny drops to six. The win by Alan Minter over Sandy Torres pulls him up a spot.

British Commonwealth welterweight king Clyde Gray beat Johnny Stef and moves from seven to six. Inactive Muniz falls one place. Bruce Curry, a loser to Wilfred Benitez, drops out of the welter top ten to be replaced by Trinidad's Eddie Marcello, who defeated Johnny Gant last time out.

One change in the lightweights: Maurice Watkins' win over Bennie Marquez moves him from eight to five. Inactive Edwin Viruet and Vilomar Fernandez, fall to six and eight, respectively.

Danny Lopez beat David Kotey, Ghana, in a W.B.C. featherweight title match. Kotey falls from three to four. Rozelle is win over Warden Williams puts him in the fifth place and Hong Soo-Hwan's defense of his W.B.A. junior featherweight crown against Masahara Kasahara, moves him up to the number six spot. Ortega falls from five to eight. Ayala, from six to seven. Inactive W.B.A. featherweight king Lastra moves up from four to three, due to Kotey dropping from the third spot.

Bantamweight Lupe Pintor's kayo over New York's David Vas-

(Continued on page 56)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(not over 160 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

RODRIGO VALDES ..... Colombia
1—MARVIN HAGLER† ..... Brockton, Mass.
2—RONNIE HARRIS ..... Akron, Ohio
3—MIKE COLBERT ..... Portland, Ore.
4—DAVID LOVE ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
5—VITO ANTUOFERMO ..... Italy
6—BENNIE BRISCOE ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
7—TOM CHIAVERINI ..... Kansas City, Mo.
8—GRATIEN TONNA ..... France
9—ALAN MINTER ..... England
10—EDGAR WALLACE ..... Phoenix, Ariz.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(not over 154 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

EDDIE GAZO* ..... Nicaragua
1—AYUB KALULE ..... Uganda
2—ROCKY MATTIOLI** ..... Australia
3—MAURICE HOPE ..... England
4—ELISHA OBED ..... Nassau, Bahamas
5—MIGUEL ANGEL CASTELLINI ..... Argentina
6—FRANK WISSENBACH ..... Germany
7—BILLY BACKUS† ..... Syracuse, N.Y.
8—EDGAR ROSS ..... Orlando, Florida
9—ALVIN ANDERSON ..... Baltimore, Md.
10—RAY PHILLIPS ..... Dallas, Texas

WELTERWEIGHTS
(not over 147 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

CARLOS PALOMINO** ..... Mexico
1—JOSE CUEVAS* ..... Mexico
2—PETE RANZANY† ..... Sacramento, Calif.
3—HAROLD WESTON ..... New York, N.Y.
4—RANDY SHIELDS ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
5—FLOYD MAYWEATHER ..... Detroit, Mich.
6—CLYDE GRAY ..... Canada
7—ARMANDO MUNIZ ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
8—EVERALDO COSTA AZEVEDO ..... Argentina
9—EDDIE MARCELLO ..... Trinidad, W.I.
10—JOSE FIGUEROA ..... Mexico

Champions: *WBA **WBC †U.S.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
(not over 140 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

WILFRED BENITEZ ..... Puerto Rico
1—SHENGSAK MUANGSURIN** ..... Thailand
2—ANTONIO CERVANTES* ..... Colombia
3—MONROE BROOKS† ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
4—MIGUEL MONTILLA ..... Dominican Rep.
5—DAVID GREEN ..... England
6—LAURIE AUSTIN (BABY CASSIUS) ... Australia
7—HECTOR THOMPSON ..... Australia
8—JIMMY HEAIR ..... Memphis, Tenn.
9—JOE KIMPUANI ..... Zaire
10—TONY PETRONELLI ..... Brockton, Mass.

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(not over 135 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

ROBERTO DURAN ..... Panama
1—ANDREW GANIGAN† ..... Honolulu, Hawaii
2—ESTEBAN DEJESUS ..... Puerto Rico
3—VICENTE SALDIVAR ..... Mexico
4—GIANCARLO USAI ..... Italy
5—TERMITE WATKINS ..... Houston, Texas
6—EDWIN VIRUET ..... Puerto Rico
7—JIM WATT ..... Scotland
8—VILOMAR FERNANDEZ ..... Dominican Rep.
9—JOSUE MARQUEZ ..... Puerto Rico
10—ANTONIO GUINALDO ..... Spain

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
(not over 130 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

SAMUEL SERRANO* ..... Puerto Rico
1—ALEXIS ARQUELLO** ..... Nicaragua
2—ALFREDO ESCALERA† ..... Puerto Rico
3—RAFAEL LIMON ..... Mexico
4—WALTER SEELEY ..... Sayville, L.I., N.Y.
5—FRANK BALTAZAR ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
6—ALFREDO PITALUA ..... Colombua
7—ARTURO LEON ..... Phoenix, Ariz.
8—BOBBY CHACON ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
9—WARREN MATTHEWS ..... New Orleans, La.
10—ROY HERNANDEZ ..... San Antonio, Texas

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FEATHERWEIGHTS
(not over 126 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1—DANNY LOPEZ**† ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
2—RUBEN CASTILLO ..... Bakersfield, Calif.
3—CECILIO LASTRA* ..... Spain
4—DAVID POISON KOTEY ..... Ghana
5—RICHARD ROZELLE ..... Columbus, Ohio
6—HONG SOO-HWAN ..... South Korea
7—MIKE AYALA ..... San Antonio, Texas
8—RAFAEL ORTEGA ..... Panama
9—LIONEL HERNANDEZ ..... Venezuela
10—ROBERTO GASTANON ..... Spain

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(not over 118 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

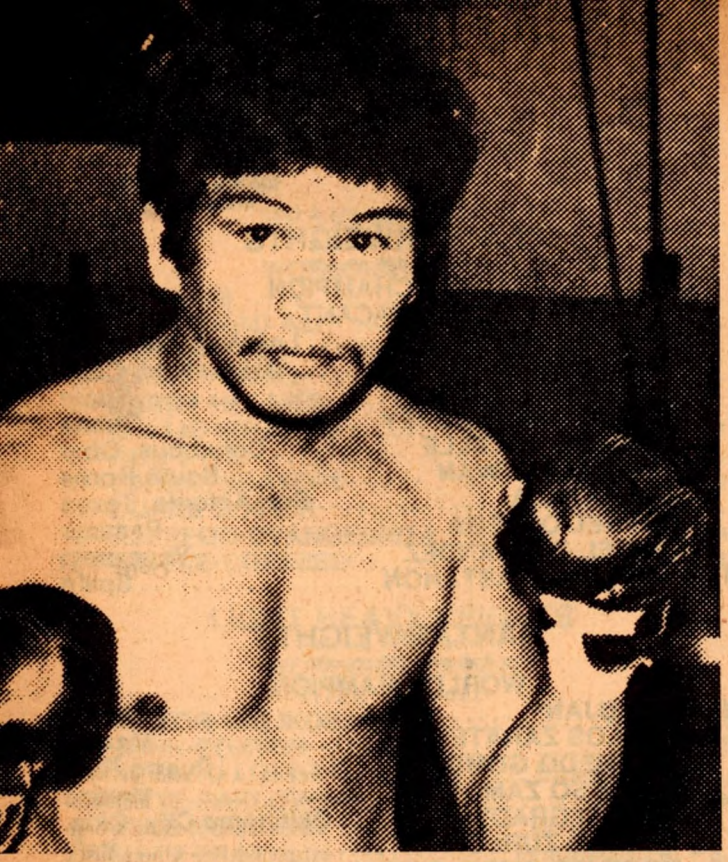
JORGE LUJAN* ..... Panama
1—CARLOS ZARATE** ..... Mexico
2—WILFREDO GOMEZ† ..... Puerto Rico
3—ALFONSO ZAMORA ..... Mexico
4—SEAN O'GRADY ..... Oklahoma City, Okla.
5—FRANCO ZURLO ..... Italy
6—ROBERTO RUBALDINO ..... Mexico
7—LUPE PINTOR ..... Mexico
8—EUSEBIO PEDROZA ..... Panama
9—ANDRES HERNANDEZ ..... Puerto Rico
10—ELISEO COSME ..... Mexico

FLYWEIGHTS
(not over 112 pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

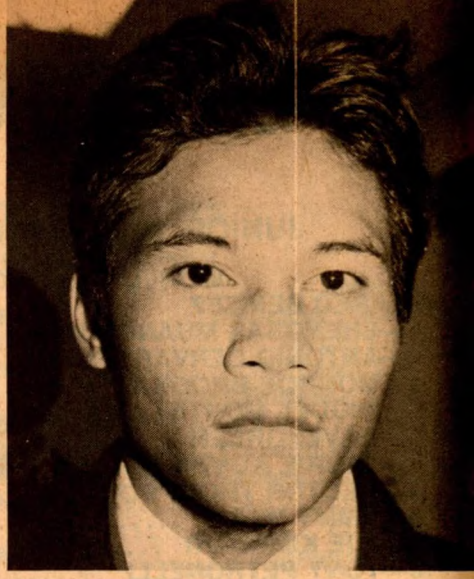
MIGUEL CANTO** ..... Merida, Mexico
1—GUTY ESPADAS* ..... Mexico
2—YOKO GUSHIKEN ..... Japan
3—FRANCO UDELLA ..... Italy
4—JUAN GUZMAN ..... Dominican Rep.
5—FREDDY CASTILLO ..... Mexico
6—LUIS ESTABA ..... Venezuela
7—AL SANDOVAL† ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
8—FREDDY HERNANDEZ ..... Colombia
9—ALFONSO LOPEZ ..... Panama
10—BETULIO GONZALEZ ..... Venezuela

PROSPECTS FOR THE MONTH

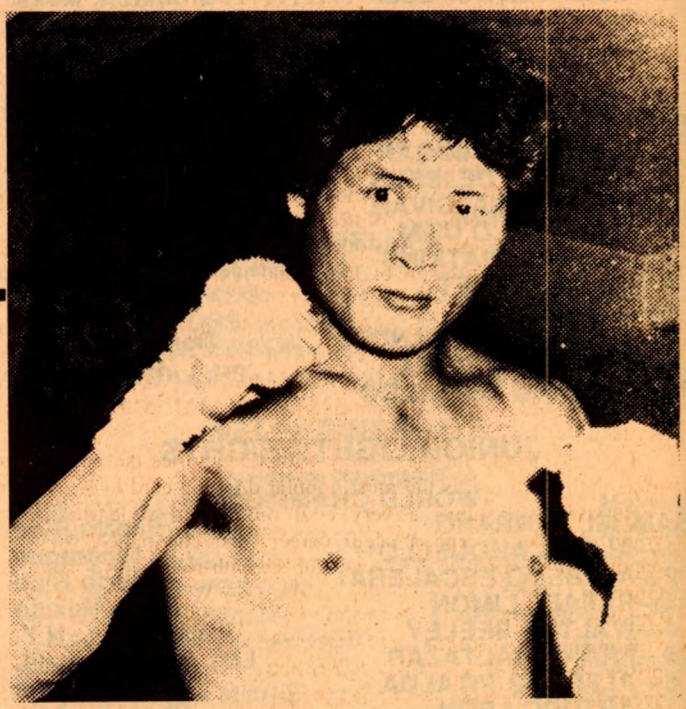
NAME	Pro Debut	Total Bouts	Won	Lost	Draws	Ko's
JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT						
Wilson Bell Detroit, Mich	1/76	6	5	1	0	2
WELTERWEIGHT						
Pete Seward Kalamazoo, Mich.	6/77	6	6	0	0	1
JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT						
Robert Vasquez Corpus Christi, Texas	7/76	17	15	2	0	14
LIGHTWEIGHT						
Howard Davis Glen Cove, N.Y.	1/77	6	6	0	0	3



(Left) Ric Quijano, Philippines, is the junior featherweight champ. (Right) Sakad Porntavee, Thailand, the WBC's No. 3 ranked super bantamweight, is his country's best hope.



A LOOK AT OUTSTANDING RINGMEN IN THE FAR EAST



Joo Ho, Korea, holds the OPBF junior middleweight crown.

By JOE Y. KOIZUMI

IN the last year there have been many Orient and national championship contests in OPBV (Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation) countries: Japan, Korea, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia and Australia.

This report deals with main results of most outstanding and promising ringmen, class by class, in the Far East.

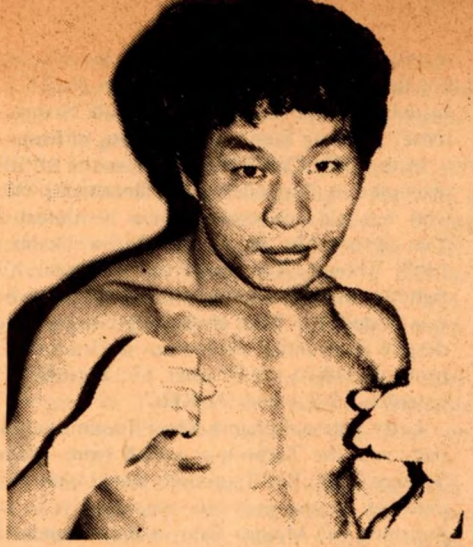
The Most Valuable Fighter must be Thai Saensak Muangsurin, WBC world junior welterweight champion, who impressively registered six defenses within one year. The strong 25-year-old southpaw regained the crown by a second round knockout over Miguel Velasquez, Spain, on October 29, 1976. Since then Saensak has proved to be a real fighting champ by putting his title on the line every other month. He stopped a formidable opponent from U.S., Monroe Brooks, in the fifteenth and final round in northern Chiengmai of Thailand on January 6, then came to Tokyo to respond to ex-WBC lightweight boss Guts (Suzuki) Ishimatsu's challenge on April 2 and won a sixth round kayo. Spaniard Perico Fernandez, from whom he had copped the WBC throne via an eighth round stoppage in his third pro fight in July of 1975, was the next rival whom the Thai lefty defeated by a 15-round decision in Madrid on July 17.

The "Saeb" ("Naughty" and "fighting mad boy" in the Thai language) took a rest of 34 days, then faced Mike Everett, a U.S. lightweight, demolishing the brother of the tragic Tyrone in six lopsided rounds to retain the laurels in Korat on August 20.

Saensak, on October 22, fought Jamaica's Saoul Mamby to beat him by a close but unanimous nod in 15 heats in the same Korat, north of the capital, Bangkok. Muangsurin's sixth and last defense last year was made in Chanthaburi on December 30, when he continually chased Joseph Kimpuani, Zaire, to be awarded a TKO in 14 gory one-sided rounds.

Saensak, with a long reach and fighting spirit, seems willing to

Moises Cantoja, Philippines, is the OPBF junior welterweight boss.



Yank Hong-Soo, Korea, rules the OPBF flyweight division.

Rey Tam, Philippines, is the OPBF junior lightweight champion.

face anyone who wants to fight him.

By compiling a 12-1 record (nine by kayo), the former kickboxer has made rapid progress in the Sweet Science, and will show his real strength if he can get bouts against Antonio Cervante, Colombia's WBA champ, and Wilfredo Benitez in the near future.

The Orient possesses two other WBA world titleholders; junior flyweight Yoko Gushiken of Japan and junior featherweight Hong Soo-Hwan, Korea.

Gushiken, an unbeaten upright southpaw, made three successful defenses, as he whipped Jaime Rios in Tokyo on January 30, beat Rigoberto Marcano, Venezuela, in Sapporo on May 22 and splendidly knocked out Thai Montsayarm Mahachai in four rounds in Kyushu on October 9, all in domestic contests.

The 22-year-old Japanese, now with 12 victories (seven by kayo) in as many outings, is the most popular drawing card in Nippon.

He always displays a very cool outfighting style despite his youth. He had a fine amateur career, and can punch with both hands with resulted in a spectacular seventh-round kayo over Juan Guzman, Dominican Republic, to take the WBA title in Kofu on October 10, 1976.

Korean Hong Soo-Hwan was a 29-year-old veteran who surprised the Orient when he survived four bad knockdowns in the second session and fought back desperately to demolish Hector Carrasquilla, a Panamanian hope at 17 who had won 11 bouts, all by kayo, in the next round of WBA eliminator in Panama on November 26.

Hong, a tall boxer, was once world bantamweight champion. He dropped Arnold Taylor five times over 15 unanimous frames to win the 118-pound class title in Johannesburg, South Africa, on July 3, 1974.

However, Hong was dethroned in his second defense by Mexico's Alfonso Zamora via a fourth round kayo in Los Angeles eight months later. On October 16, 1976, the Korean boxer once again fought Zamora in his native Seoul, when he was forced to retire because of bad punishment in the twelfth round, but Hong's tremendous durability did amaze Zamora at the time.

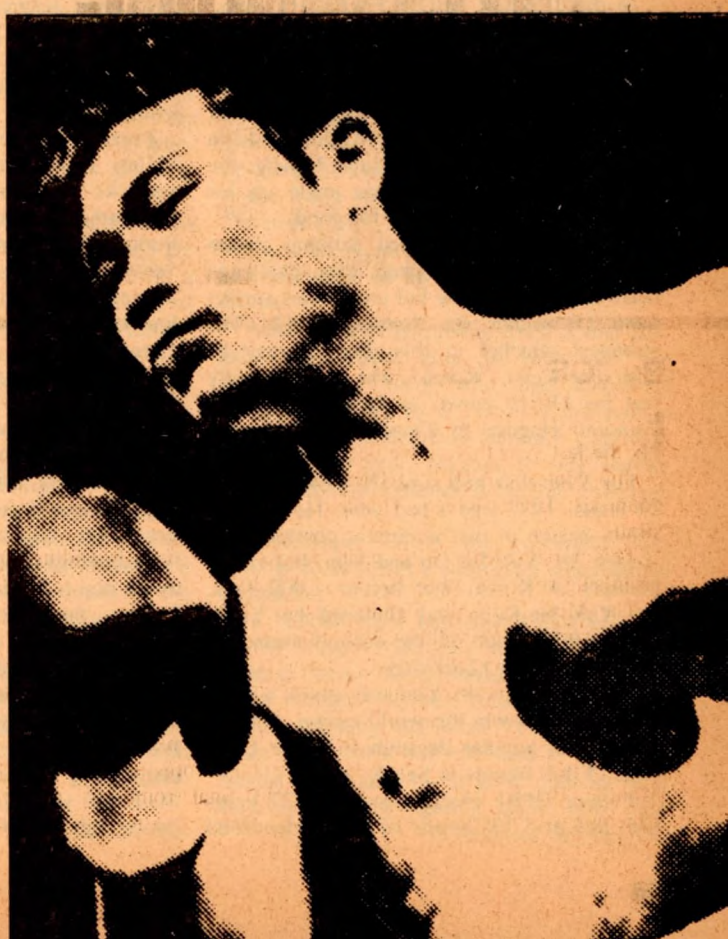
After the second loss to Zamora, he outgrew the bantam division to outscore Conrad Vasquez, Philippines, over 10 heats in Honolulu on March 15, and gained a 12-round sensational decision from Yum Dong-Kyun, former WBC titlist, in Seoul on June 27. By dropping Yu Kasahara, Japan, five times to retain the crown by a 15-round unanimous decision recently. Soo-Hwan has compiled a record of 41 wins (15 by kayo) against four defeats and three draws.

On November 2, the 21st OBF meeting was held in Manila, where the Federation was reformed into the OPBF, to include Australia. Its headquarters moved to the JBC (Japan Boxing Commission) in Tokyo, which announced the first OPBF ratings last December.

Surprisingly seven classes were dominated by Korean champions out of eleven divisions.

How steadily Korea went to make the domination on the Orient fistic map will be reviewed later, while Japan concentrated on staging eight world title bouts.

Because there are no excellent heavyweights in the Orient with



Yuh Jae-Do, Korea, holds the OPBF middleweight title.

the exception of Japanese Akira Saito, who has been fighting in Oklahoma with four straight ko's, this reporter must begin with the MIDDLEWEIGHT class first.

The Orient champion is Yuh Jae-Do, 30-year-old ex-world junior middleweight ruler, who has stretched his record to nineteen straight defenses. On April 9, Kanjoo City, Korea, witnessed Yuh, a sturdy puncher, easily polish off Saburo Sakai, Japan, with a solid right shot in four rounds.

His next defense was made against another Nipponese named Toshiaki Suzuki, a hard hitting former amateur champ, who Yuh decisively beat over 12 unanimous rounds in Seoul on October 9. Jae-Do's record now stands at 47-2-2 with 28 KOs.

If there is a worthy opponent for Yuh, he must be Japan's national leader, Masashi Kudo, who has been unbeaten in 17 pro outings for three and a half years. However Kudo, 26 years of age, who is preparing for his ambitious crack at the world 154-pound title, dually held by Eddie Gazo and Rocky Mattioli, does not seem to be eager to face the Korean champ.

Last year Kudo engaged in four games and won all, including a unanimous decision from Yuichiro Watanabe in May and a ninth round kayo from African Peter Namboku in September. Kudo, an all around athlete, was an amateur wrestler before he became a pro boxer, and usually shows fine reflexes in his vaunted hit-and-run tactics. In spite of his 10 previous knockouts, Masashi is a good combination puncher. There are no fighters to match Yuh and Kudo in the 160-pound class.

In the JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT class, the Orient witnessed three WBA title competitions, all of which were won by Nicaragua's Eddie Gazo, two in Tokyo and one in Seoul. Gazo lopsidedly battered Japanese ex-champ Koichi Wajima, 34, in eleven gruelling rounds on June 7. After the unfruitful comeback, Wajima made up his mind to hang up the gloves for good.

Tokyo gloomily watched national champ Kenji Shibata, an elongated lefty, challenge Gazo and drop a close but unanimous verdict over 15 rounds on Sepbember 13. The strongest puncher in this division may be Yim Jae-Keun, Korea, who astonishingly lost his Orient crown to Japan's neglected Tsutomu Hagusa in Kyushu on November 20, 1976.

For Yim who had sunk 20 victims in his 23 bouts, 1977 was a bad year. He was severely beaten in two important combats. On August 28, Yuh Jae-Do and Yim, big crowd pleasers in Korea, met before 4,000 fans, but Yim Jae-Keun was flattened by Yuh's wicked body shots in the seventh round of their ballyhooed 12-rounder.

On December 18, Yim was given a good opportunity to win the world crown, but lost a split but popular decision to Eddie Gazo over 15 dull rounds in Seoul.

Former OPBF champ Joo Ho is 27 years old, and at 5'10" boasts of his unblemished record in 13 bouts, decisioning Japan's top notcher Yohi Arai in ten frames on March 5. In only 158 seconds Joo tabbed his first defense, stopping Sumio Kai, Tokyo, in Pusan.

In the WELTERWEIGHT class the OPBF champion is Nipponese Ryu Sorimachi, 30, who has eld his crown since he defeated Yim Byong-Mo in 12 rounds in October 1969. Though Ryu made ten defenses, his fighting seemed a bit weary last year, as he was tested by Thai challenger Singsamang despite an eventual unanimous decision in 12 heats in Tokyo on October 17. Sorimachi's record is 55-9-4 with 31 KOs.

Lefty national champ Shoji Tsujimoto, Japan, won the Technique Award from Tokyo Writers Club. But Tsujimoto added only two defenses to the previous nine last year by polishing off Minoru Ono in nine rounds in Hiroshima on October 3 and halting Buffalo Fuzuki in the tenth and final session on December 3.

Shoji, formerly a University amateur ringster at 29, had outpunched Pepino Cuevas well before the Mexican champ retained his WBA crown by a sudden sixth-round kayo in Kanazawa in October, 1976.

In Korea, Kim Kap-Soo is the national leader who copped a title from Choi Man-Song, but dropped a unanimous decision to top contender Cho Ik-Hyun in a nontitle go on November 13.

As to the JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT class, Indonesia, which had joined the then OBF two years ago, lost its only title, as champion Wongso Suseno went down in the ninth round to be decisioned by Filipino Moises Cantoja in 12 disappointing frames in the capital Jakarta, where more than 9,000 fans gathered on September 29. Moises who had become one of the OBF top notchers with a convincing win over strong fellow countryman Tony Tumao.

Previously unmatched in Japan, hard-hitting Tetsuo Furuyama suffered two bad setbacks to determine his retirement. Lion Furuyama, 30, had battled for the world throne three times against Antonio Cervantes, Perico Fernandez and Saensak Muangsurin, losing every time but never knocked down. In a comback trial, Furuyama again lost to younger speedster, Noboru Hatakeyama, 24 and 13-2-1 with three kayoes, who completely outpunched the sturdy southpaw to win Japan's crown at Korakuen Hall on October 27.

In Thailand there appeared another prospect, Tongta Kiatvayupakdi, who turned international style boxer from his Muay Thai (kick-boxing) career. On April 29, though it was a non-title tenner, Tongta faced Wongso Suseno, then the Orient champ, whipping him decisively to compile an impressive 23-0 (20 by KO) record. The Thai hope next went to the Philippines to stretch his winning streak by stopping Dan de Guzman, Filipino boss, within the distance and unanimously decisioning Korean champ Kim Kap-Soo in Maila last year. Tongta is coached by former junior lightweight champ Flash Elorde, who was also an excellent lefty stylist.

LIGHTWEIGHT division Orient champion Oh Yong-Ho of Korea managed to keep the title since he gained it in an OBF eliminator with Filipino Tony Jumao-As in Seoul on April 25, 1976.

Oh, a short but sturdy hooker, tabbed his fourth defense by a very fast kayo over Fred Pastor, Philippines, in only 70 seconds in Taegu, Korea, on March 27. Oh, 35-5-4 with 23 knockouts at the end of the previous year, was held to a very controversial draw by Kiyoshi Kazama, Japan's top notcher, in a hard-fought non-title bout in Korea on May 27.

Oh went to Bangkok, Thailand, where he engaged in another over the weight go with Petchsayarm Petcharern, a cousin of world champ Saensak, suffering a 10-round unanimous loss. Taller and younger, Petcharern kept outjabbing 25-year-old Oh to prevent him from scoring with his vaunted jolting rights. Petchsayarm once came to Tokyo, easily finishing Harbar Watanabe in four rounds of a semi-windup for a Saensak vs. Ishimatsu title card in April.

Japan boasts of two lightweight KO artists. One is national champ Masahiro Yokai, who ran his kayo streak to six when he finished ex-champ Tamio Negishi in two rounds on December 3. In their first meeting, then challenger Yokai, 25-year-old ex-high school champ, survived a bad knockdown to drop Negishi time and again, demolishing him with only one second left in the tenth and final canto on July 25.

Another up-and-coming pucher is Hitoshi Takahashi who has been piloted by Fighting Harada, ex-bantam and flyweight champion. Takahashi, who had unanimously beaten Yokai in 1976, battled five times last year, winning all by kayos at the expense of Ken Kokubo, Bomber Uchida, Choi Jin-Bee (in Korea), Mitsuo Koide and Hiromi Nishida.

Beyond them all, perhaps, the best prospect from the Orient may be lefty Andrew Ganigan of the Philippines, rated by The Ring last year, who continued on his winning way to tab a 21-0 (19 by kayo) record in Hawaii.

In the JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT class, top Orient fighters lost to Samuel Serrano, Puerto Rico, for the WBA title in San Juan. On August 27, Orient boss Apollo Yoshio went abroad to meet Serrano and was outscored unanimously, though he had Serrano at bay in the eighth round.

Another victim was Korean hope, Kim Tae-Ho, who had been unbeaten in 27 outings since turning pro after his good 153-2 record as an amateur. However, despite Kim giving the champ a damaging third round knockdown, Serrano found Kim fading fast due to his too hot pace, stopping him in the eleventh round on November 19.

Apollo, 27, had failed to win the world crown twice previously via a 15-round decision loss to Ricardo Arrendondo, Mexico, in 1973 and an unpopular draw with Filipino Ben Villaflor the next year.

The footworker, 33-7-4, dejectedly returned from San Juan and went to the Philippines to engage in a long delayed defense of his Orient title.

On November 20, Apollo was fully annoyed by puzzling southpaw Rey Tam, junior lightweight champ of the country, who gained a lopsided 12-round nod and the OPBF throne in Baguio City. Rising Tam, 26, upped his record to 23-1 with five kayos, and may meet Takao Maruki, 25-year-old JBC top contender who has recently won 13 recent games on domestic cards in his first defense.

Korean champ was 20 years of age, Lee Yidano, son of ex-Orient junior middle boss Lee Ansano, came to Japan to show his sophistication through the fistic career taught him by the father. Yidano kayoed Hiromi Nishida with a flashing combination in the fifth round of his first showing at Korakuen Hall on August 8. He went back to Korea, where he surprisingly suffered a first-round knockout to Chung Hae-Eun to give him the national throne on November 4. The upset winner Chung was the man that Japanese Hitoshi Takahashi demolished within the distance to cause a sensation among Korean ringsiders.

The FEATHERWEIGHT class has been dominated by Hwang Bok-Soo. Hwang, a short but skillful puncher at 22, took the Orient title from Filipino Fel Clementes in 12 heats at Pusan in May, 1976. Hwang kept the crown by decisioning Eddie Saloma, Philippines, for the first time on April 23. The sturdy Korean made his debut at Korakuen Hall to face speedy Shuzo Yoshida. Originally, the 12-rounder on October 11 was ballyhooed with Hwang's Orient title at stake, but strange enough, ex-world ranker Yoshida was then neither in the OBF rating which made it a rule not to list the ranked boxers in either the WBA or WBC, nor in the world ratings that put him out in the previous month. Yoshida fought well, but lost a close decision to Hwang in 12 heats.

Hwang, 41-3 including 17 kayos, was a clever guy who solved Yoshida's fast pace to have the tide turn midway in the contest, using busy short punches. Japan's national champ was Flipper Uehara, piloted by Kanehira, who challenged Rafael Ortega, Panama, for the WBA crown, but lost a onesided duke after two sour knockdowns in Okinawa on May 29. He suddenly announced his retirement, relinquishing his national title to the JBC, which ordered an official eliminator to be held soon.

Veteran Spider Nemoto and southpaw Shigeyshi Adachi combated at Korakuen Hall with the former being a points victor over 10 very close heats on September 18. Nemoto, who lost to Ernest Marcel by a vicious kayo in Panama in his too reckless challenge in 1973, overcame his very short height to tab a winning streak.

In the Philippines, Nene Jun is the top OPBF contender, as the feather champ defeated Manny Ysrael, lightweight boss there, in the sensational tenner on December 23.

Because of the size of Orient fighters, the lighter the class becomes, the more internationally good ringmen there are.

In the JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT (Super Bantamweight according to the WBC) division, a formidable puncher, Royal (Kazuo) Kobayashi, who had lost the WBC version to Yum Dong-Kyun in 15 hairline rounds in Seoul on November 24, 1976, aimed at regaining it from Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico.

Dong-Kyun was not a champion any longer, for Yum was dethroned by Wilfredo via a twelfth-round kayo in San Juan on November 24.

Yum, in his previous showing, had made the first defense by outpointing Jose Cervantes, brother of the junior welter kingpin, Antonio, over 15 monotonous frames in Seoul on February 13.

On January 19 this year, Kobayashi failed to have his eager hope come true owing to a surprisingly quick kayo by Gomez in Kitakyushu.

Japan's national champ is Yu Kasahara, who scored a fine 12-0 record with nine knockouts. The sharp boxer-puncher has shown a good technique as well as solid punching.

He collected kayo victims of ex-Olympic medalist and defending champ, Waruinge Nakayama, (twice), Toshi Nakai and Tatsunoshin Ishimi in 1977.

But his crack at Hong Soo-Hwan's WBA throne was unsuccessful, as he collapsed five times to lose a 15-round lopsided verdict recently.

The best hope in the 122-pound class is Orient titlist Ric Quijano, who had tabbed a very good record, 45-1-1, before he met Mexico's world ranker Juan Antonio Lopez in Manila on June 24. But Quijano was dropped near the end of the seventh canto, and was declared a TKO loser in the next round.

Quijano's next slow down occurred on November 23, when he was decisioned by fellow countryman Roland Navarette in a 10-rounder in Davao, where the official permission of GAB (Games and Amusements Board) had not been received by a promoter. The GAB ordered Quijano suspended for months.

Thailand saw another Saensak suddenly appear on November 10, when Sakad Porntavee made an astounding pro debut by defeating WBC topnotcher Juan Antonio Lopez, Mexico, over 10 unanimous rounds. He finished Japanese Hisami Mizuno, a tough guy, in six aggressive rounds in his next showing on January 14 this year.

Sakad hopes to be like Saensak, who became the world champ in his third bout.

In the BANTAMWEIGHT class, there are no matched fighters for such a strong WBC champion as Carlos Zarate, Mexico, who decked a string of 49 wins with an outstanding string of 48 knockouts.

Kim Yong-Shik, Korea, registered one defense since he gained the throne via a 12-round decision over Roland Navarette, a tough Filipino opponent, in the OBF eliminator in June, 1977.

Getting off the canvas from a eighth round knockdown, Kim barely outpointed Go Mifune, Japanese lefty puncher, in 12 close, but unanimous, rounds on August 13.

Nippon's champion Go (Hisami) Numata, though not so popular owing to his lack of power, regained the crown from Tsuyoshi Okabe, a younger and taller boxer, in 10 heats on May 16.

The nimble boxer Numata turned very aggressive in retaining the national title by a unanimous nod over Go Mifune in 10 heats of Champion Carnival on December 4.

It has been barren of talent in the FLYWEIGHT class since Filipino great Pancho Villa's reign in early 1920s. The man from whom WBC champ Miguel Canto took the leadership, Shoji Oguma of Japan faced the elusive Canto again to lose a disputed split decision in Koriyama, northern city of Nippon, on January 2 this year.

Another loser was Kimio Furesawa, who was happy to face two world champs within a six month interval. Unfortunately, Furesawa proved no match for them. Kimio lost a shutout decision to Canto in 15 frames on June 15 last year, and was technically kayoed by Guty Espadas, WBA champ of Mexico, in seven merciless rounds on January 4 this year.

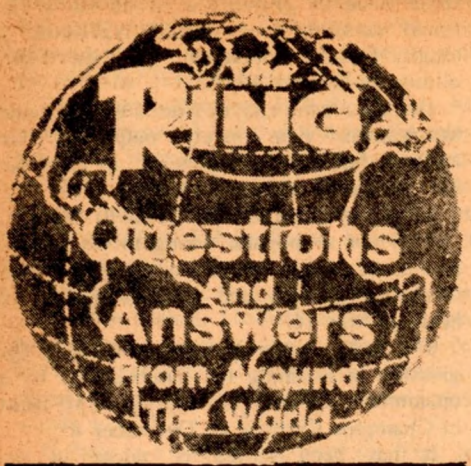
Orient titlist Jiro Takada, Japan, who had also suffered a severe beating from Espadas in a seventh-round kayo loss on New Years Day 1977, has scored two successful defenses since. Takada defeated Chikara Igarashi, ex-national flyweight boss, after surviving knockdowns in 12 see-saw frames on March 8, and then whipped Daniel Pillar by a unanimous nod this time on June 15. However, in Takada's final bout last year, he gave the crown to the short, tricky lefthander Yang Hong-Soo, Korea, in Osaka on December 8. Yang, whose upset victory brought his record to 19-3-2 (5 KOs), seems to concentrate on his defense in the domestic Korea.

Another bit of surprising news is that Bernabe Villacampo, now 34 years old, the former world ruler who had dethroned Hiroyuki Ebihara by a 15-round decision in October 1969 and lost to Berkrerk Chartvanchai the next year, returned to ring warfare to become the national flyweight champion again.

Villacampo, OPBF top contender, will now try to establish a successful international comback.

In Nippon there appeared a new prospect named Shigeo Nakajima, former Universtiy amateur boxer, who remained unbeaten in seven outings. His best triumph was scored in his finishing Kazunori Tenryu in three upset rounds of a non-title card in Tokyo on August 23. Nakajima, a good puncher with an overwhelming fighting spirit, may cope

(Continued on page 42)



When writing letters that require an answer please send along stamped self addressed envelope.

Q. My buddy insists that boxing great Barney Ross was old and over the hill when he was beaten by Henry Armstrong. When did they fight and how old was Ross?

Damon Vanterpool
Duluth Minn.

A. Armstrong and Ross met for the welterweight title on May 31, 1938 in Long Island. Armstrong, who won the decisions over 15 rounds was 25 and Ross was 28.

Q. When was the first racially mixed bout held in South Africa?

Bruce Oddenine
North Hollywood, Calif.

A. The first racially mixed bout (Black and White) was between Bob Foster and Pierre Fourie for the light heavyweight title in Johannesburg on December 1, 1973. Foster, an American Black, retained the title with a 15 round decision.

Q. How many times has Muhammad Ali been knocked out?

Michael Martinez
La Jolla, Calif.

A. Ali has never been knocked out but he has been knocked down four times by Sonny Banks, Henry Cooper, Joe Frazier, and Chuck Wepner. They turned the trick once apiece.

Q. Has anyone ever won three consecutive Olympic Gold Medals?

Shirley Davett
Tampa, Fla.

A. Lazle Papp of Hungary won Gold Medals in the '48, '52, and '56 games.

Q. I understand that Joe Louis holds the all time record for title defenses with 25. Who is second?

Herbert Cordinere
Columia, South Carolina

A. As of this writing, current heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali has engaged in 19 title defenses.

Q. Was Harry Greb ever knocked out?

Roland Garrett
Cleveland, Ohio

A. The Pittsburgh Windmill was stopped only twice in 290 fights. He was kayoed by Kid Graves on December 16, 1915, and by Joe Chip in a bout which took place in 1913.

Q. How many times did Jake La Motta fight Sugar Ray Robinson?

Butch McBride
Trenton, New Jersey

A. LaMotta and Ray Robinson met a total of six times with the "Saccharin Man" owning a 5-1 edge.

Q. Who was the first recipient of The Ring's Fighter of the Year award?

David Clark
Houston, Texas

A. Gene Tunney received the first award in 1928.

Q. Was Stanley Ketchel ever beaten by a middleweight?

Raymond Sargent
Bronx, New York

A. Yes. Billy Papke stopped the Michigan Assassin in 12 rounds for the middleweight title on September 7, 1908.

Q. How many fights did Willie Pep have? I say 210 and my father says 230.

Nelson Penderman
Daytona Beach, Florida

A. You are both wrong. In an outstanding career that saw The Will O' the Wisp engage in 241 total bouts, Pep only saw defeat 11 times while recording 229 wins—65 by knockout.

Q. Who did Kid Gavilan fight in his American debut?

Claude Secdiltrest
Orlando, Florida

A. The Kid's American debut took place here in New York City where he stopped Johnny Ryan in 5 rounds. This bout took place on November 1, 1946.

Q. From whom did Benny Leonard win the lightweight title and when did he win it?

Santino Tardibuono
Brooklyn, New York

A. Benny Leonard won the lightweight title from Freddie Welsh on May 28, 1917, with a ninth round knockout.

Q. How many knockouts did George KO Chaney have to his credit and how many times was he knocked out himself?

Norman Conette
Denver, Colorado

A. Chaney fought 181 times. He won 86 by knockout and 23 by decision. He was knocked out eight times while losing three via decision. Chaney also engaged in 55 contests that were ruled No Decision.

Q. My father told me that during World War II we had what is called an interim heavyweight champion because Joe Louis was in the army. If this is true, who was the interim heavyweight champion?

Mason Gavner
Superior, Wisconsin

A. Your father is correct. Jimmy Bivins was the interim heavyweight champion.

Q. How old was Archie Moore when he won the light heavyweight title from Joey Maxim?

Arnold Shattell
Roanoke, Virginia

A. If you go by the date of birth supplied by The Mongoose, he was 36. If you go by the date of birth supplied by his mother, he was 39. Take your pick.

Q. Has Floyd Patterson ever officially retired?

Diane Townder
Phoenix, Arizona

A. The former heavyweight champion's last official fight was September 20, 1972 against Muhammad Ali. He is 43 years old and in 1977 was elected to the Ring Boxing Hall of Fame which stipulates that a fighter must be retired for two or more years.

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THE BIBLE OF BOXING
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When writing letters that require an answer please send along stamped self addressed envelope.

THE NORTON-YOUNG DECISION

To Jimmy Young: The world knows that you beat Ken Norton. Don't despair, look forward, we are with you. I'm still trying to understand how Norton got the decision after having hit you only eighteen times (thrice in the head, fifteen times in the body) in fifteen rounds. Maybe something is wrong with me, but I never saw the "continuous attack to the body" that I read about in the newspapers the day after the fight. For me, you are the best. The only other thing I regret is that you showed Ali how to beat Norton.

Jose R. Fernandez
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

ANOTHER YOUNG FAN

Jimmy Young was robbed of the decision in his fight with Ken Norton. Young is one of the greatest defensive fighters to come along in the last twenty years. I think he will be the future champ.

James Coyle
Oxford, Michigan

THE RIDDLE OF THE SPINKS

I'm getting sick and tired with the television networks and their efforts to make instant world contenders of Olympic glamour boys. If television is to play a part in boxing, let it do so with a measure of integrity. The TV rape of solid *prospects* from the ranks of amateurs must stop.

Frank Wardell
Brooklyn, New York

THE BRITISH ARE IN EUROPE, TOO

I notice that you ignore British fighters in your European ratings, unless they are the champions, and then you're forced to rate them. May I remind you that we are in Europe, and have the best fighters in that continent, too? Apart from world class performers like Conteh, Green, Minter, Hope, and Stracey, we have fine boxers like Billy Aird, John L. Gardner, Bunny Johnson, Kevin Finnegan, Frank Lucas, Jim Watt, Dave Needham, Alan Richardson, and Charlie Nash, to mention but a few. Then there is our future flyweight champ—Charlie Magri.

So please, a bit more recognition for our boxers in your fine magazine.

Dave Hughes
Guisborough, England

THE PARLOV-CUELLO BOUT

Miguel Angel Cuello seemed to be giving lessons on "How Not To Fight A Southpaw" in losing his W.B.C. light heavyweight crown to Mate Parlov of Yugoslavia. After viewing Mate, I'll take him over anyone, except John Conteh.

E.L. Beaven
South Holland, Illinois

A NATIONAL COMMISSION

The time is long past due for boxing to have a full-time national commission headed by knowledgeable boxing personnel. Each state's commission should abide by the same rules as that of the next as to scoring system, knockdown rules; number of officials, *etc.* . The dual-champion syndrome must be ended, stiffs ousted, and scandals immediately investigated and dealt with—with strong guidelines to prevent them from recurring.

The W.B.A. and W.B.C. are a farce. They must be removed and be replaced by one honest ruling body. This must, of course, take place as soon as possible. Hometown decisions, political favoritism, and built-up fighters without real talent are among the reasons why boxing, which now has a renewed, young interest, might be pushed aside in favor of other sports.

With telecasters who haven't the slightest knowledge of boxing on the air, and apathetic, unqualified people in the boxing commissions, the sport can only suffer. Greedy promoters and managers must be banned.

Filmes like "Rocky," strong Olympic teams, telecasts of good bouts from around the world, new, colorful champions, challengers, and up-coming fighters in all weight categories will undoubtedly help boxing. On the other hand, a complete lack of reporting of important bouts (or even an overexposure of the game with the same fighters and information shown repeatedly) can sap any strength it is achieving. It is also time for there to be a pension fund for boxers. Medical insurance coverage doesn't exist under a plan for boxing, as it does in other sports. That is ridiculous.

There are plenty of other problems for the government to handle, but if we, the fans, show our support, a national commission can become reality, instead of pipe dream fiction.

John Fortuno
Bronx, New York

REMEMBER JOE CHOYINSKI

I read with much interest Lester Bromberg's article on "Top Ten Jewish-American Boxers of all Time." The selection on the whole has merit. It would seem that one great name was missing, namely Joe Choyinski, who, at 168, fought formidable light heavyweights and heavyweights. Perhaps, the most notable of them was his battle with James J. Corbett on a barge in Benicia Bay, since the law forbade the fight on land in that area at that time.

That historic battle was mentioned to me at the Vatican when I interviewed Martin O'Connor, president of the American College for teaching priests, and the world public relations representative of the Holy See. I did this in my capacity as the Chairman of the California Committee for Boxing Safeguards appointed by then Governor Pat Brown, who actually favored the abolition of professional boxing.

If you are interested, I should be pleased to communicate further with you in why Joe Choyinski should be listed among the greatest of Jewish Fighters.

Sol Silverman
San Francisco, Cal.

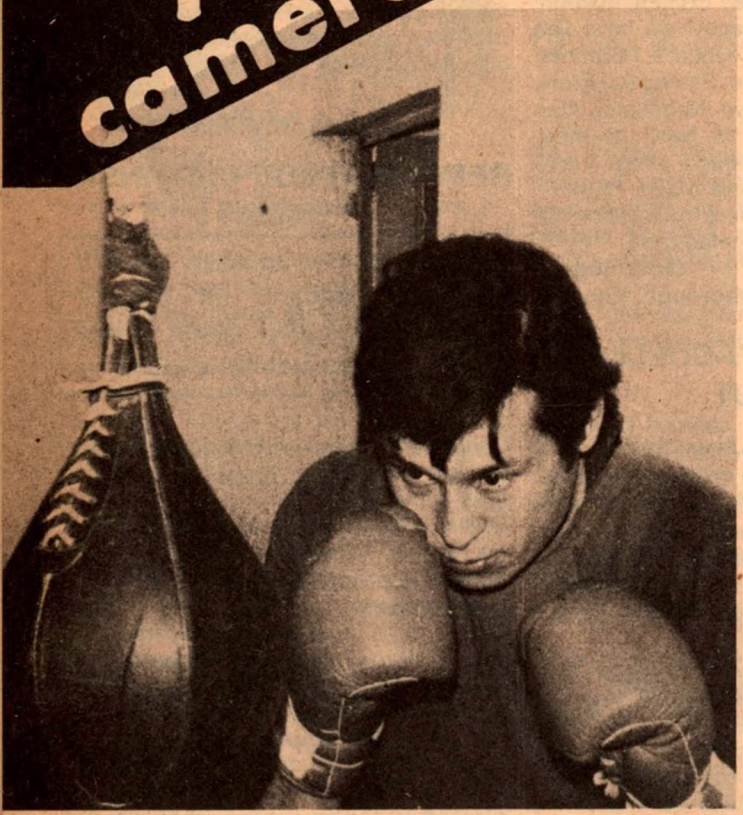
AMERICAN CHALLENGERS NOT PREPARED

I have watched many fights lately involving champions of other countried defending their titles against American contenders. The Reason the American contenders seem to fall short is because they rush right in at the title shot and neglect the hard training and experience required to beat the champ. As soon as an American contendor gets a rating and is in a position to get a title shot he tries just to get a title shot, neglecting tough fights with other top contenders that would prepare him for the chance. Mike Rossman beat Mike Quarry and that made him the number one contendor for the Victor Galindez title. Instead of concentrating on fights with conatenders like Lonnie Bennett, Richie Kates and others that would prepare him for Galindez, he wants an immediate title shot. Who knows? He may not get another title shot so he should be the best prepared that

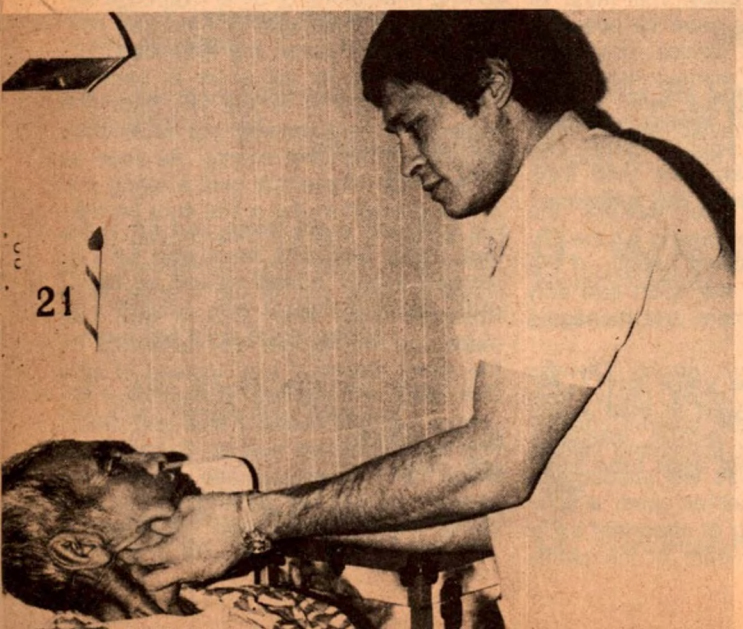
(Continued on page 36)

the RING camera clicks

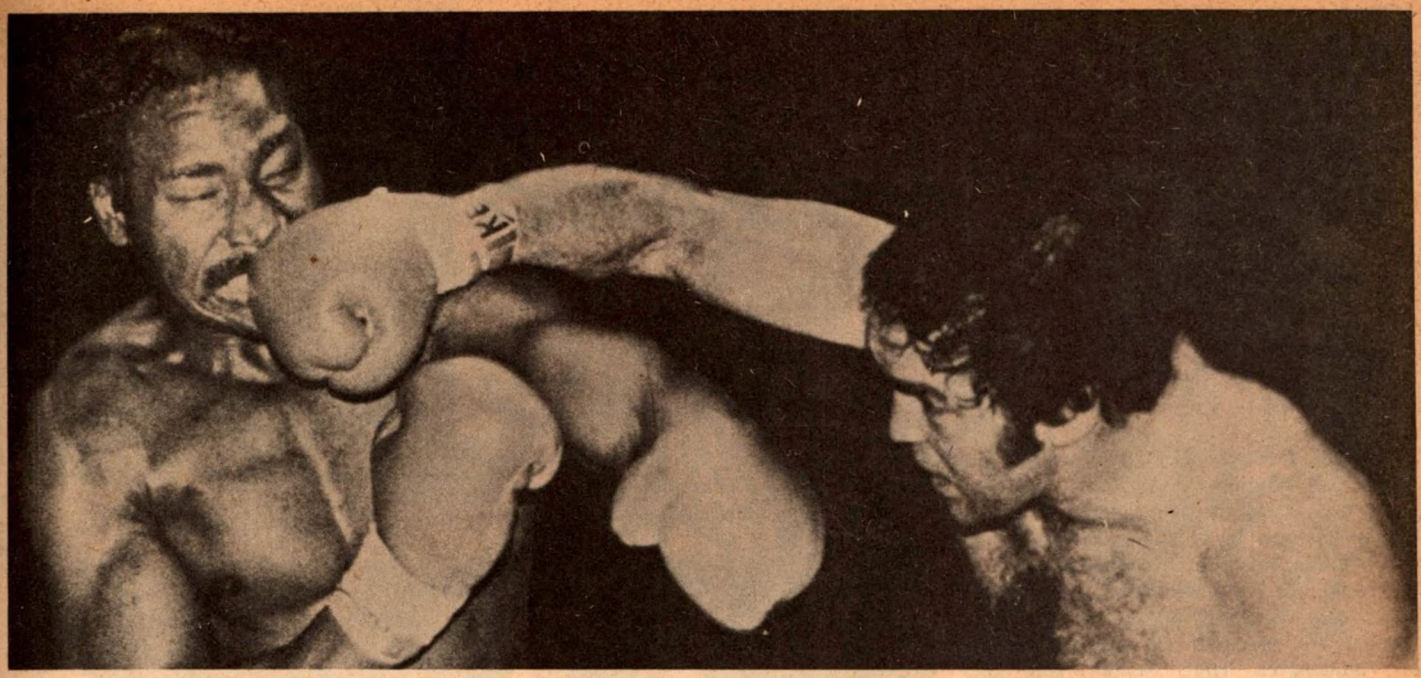
Carlyle Graham, retired mechanic foreman at Dewey Avenue Service Center, Buffalo, qualifies as one of the most dedicated and expert boxing fans in the United States. Carrying on a family tradition begun by his brother in 1910, Carlyle has collected 245 scrapbooks on the sport since 1915, totaling 23,592 pages and 800,000 clippings. In all, this makes a prodigious stack 15 feet long and about four feet high, weighing 500 pounds. He buys as many as 1,200 out-of-town papers a year and spends up to $8.00 on the papers for some championship fights.



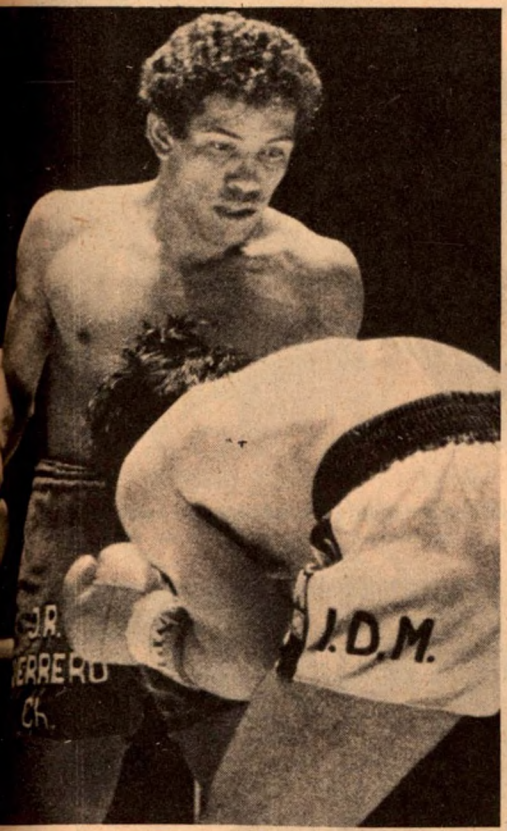
(Above) Heavyweight Ismael Ruiz, 25, works out mornings in a Mexico City gym, sharpening the punches that have given him 17 knockouts in an 18-bout professional career. Ruiz won a Bronze Medal in the 1968 Olympics and was Mexico's national amateur champion for three years before joining the punch-for-pay ranks. (Below) In the afternoons, however, he is Dr. Ruiz, an intern at the General Hospital. The 6′5″, 210 pound Ruiz graduated from the School of Medicine of the National Polytechnic Institute last August. "My life is medicine," says Ruiz, "and the boxing benefits have greatly improved my economic situation."

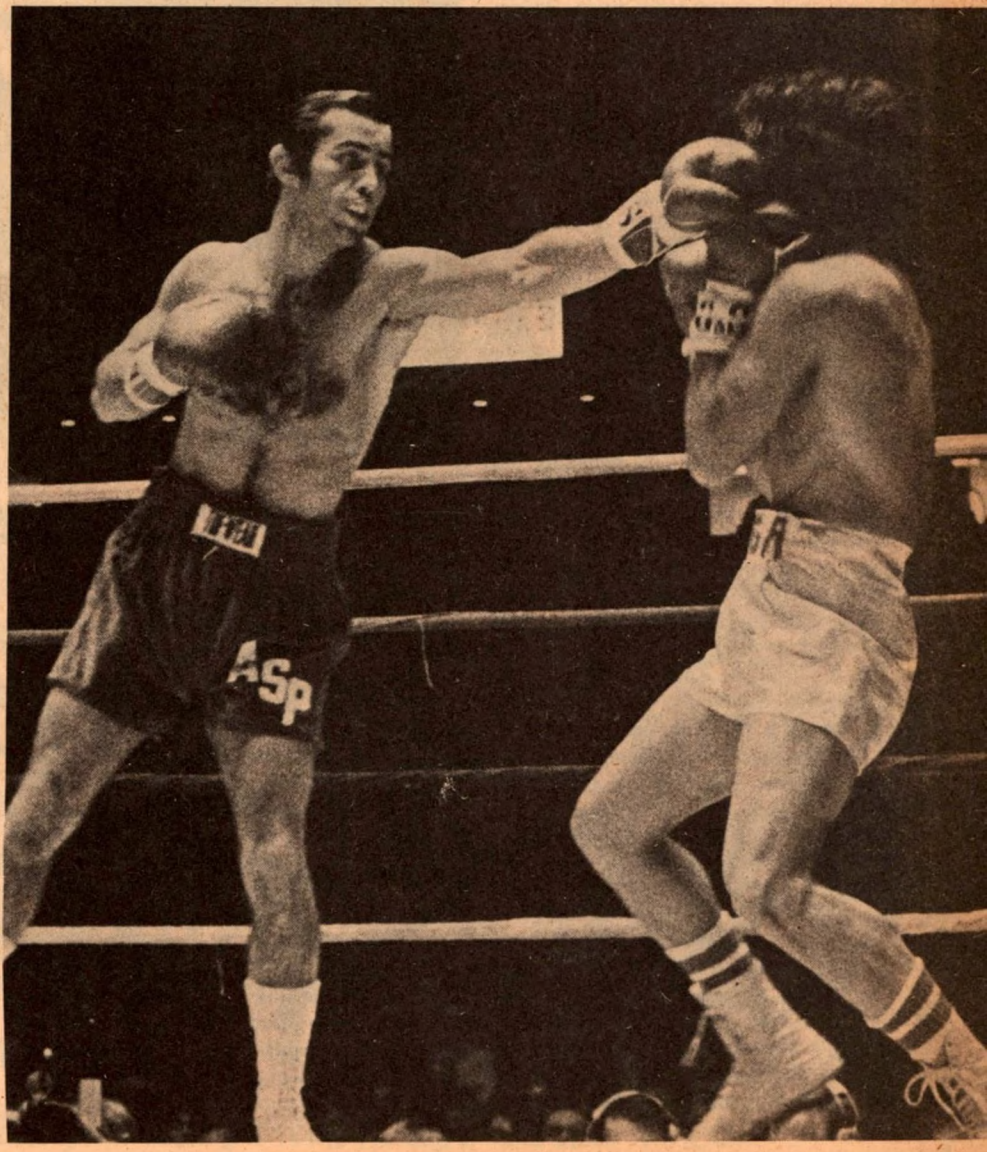


World heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali celebrated his thirty-sixth birthday at the Fifth Street Gym in Miami Beach, Florida, on January 17. The champ's been fighting, amateur and pro, for more than twenty years, winning the Louisville Golden Gloves at the age of sixteen.



Boone Kirkman lands a solid right on Charles Atlas of Bristol, Tenn., in a scheduled ten round heavyweight fight at Seattle, Wash. Kirkman, the hometown favorite, knocked Atlas out in the fourth round.

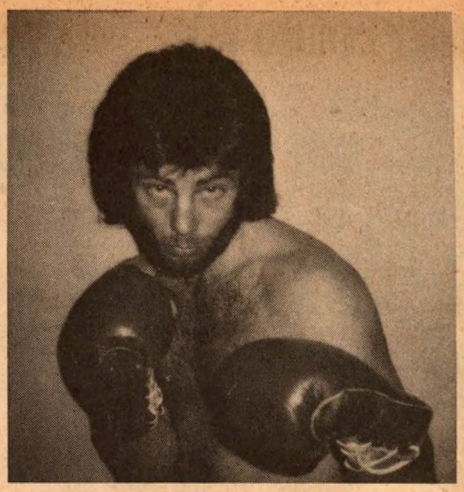




(Above) Canadian welterweight champion Guerrero Chavez had four-time former Italian champion Efisio Pinna in trouble for most of their fight, held in Montreal. Chavez won unanimous decision. (Right) Junior lightweight Augie Pantellas, left, is on his way to a fifth round TKO victory over Isaac Vega. The bout was held in Philadelphia.

Eddie Freeman Takes Dead Aim

By JOEL LIPSITT



Eddie "The Flea" Freeman

EDDIE "The Flea" Freeman, Memphis' slugging little featherweight, isn't kidding himself or anyone else. Eddie realizes his sights are high but he is downright serious and with an overall record of 18 wins and one loss, he's on the climb and taking dead aim on the featherweight title.

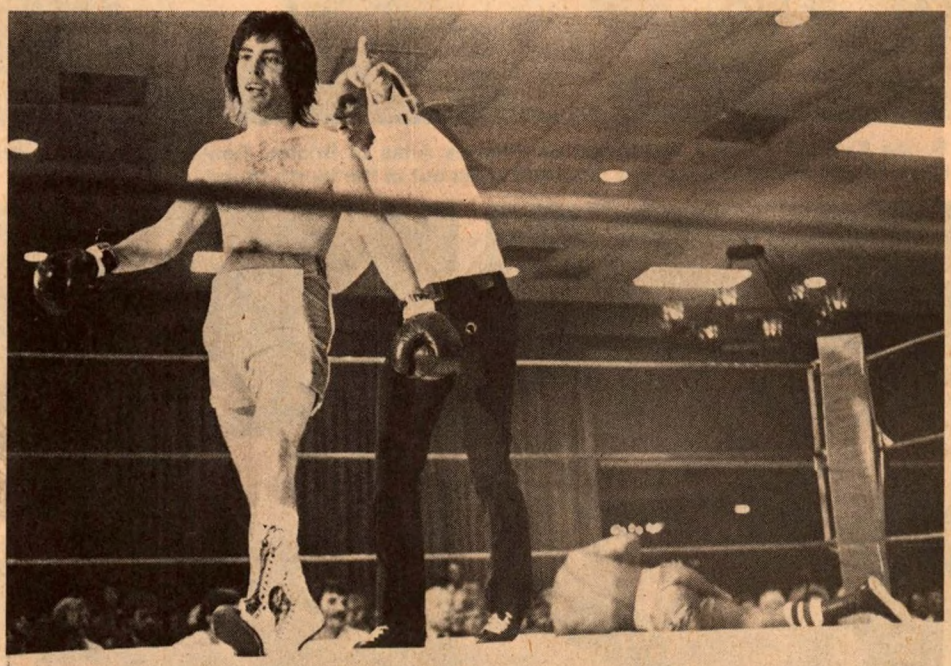
In 1975, Freeman, now 28 and still an eligible bachelor, passed up a possible chance to go to the U.S. Olympic boxing trials by turning pro. "The Montreal Olympics were a year off and I was too old to fight Golden Gloves anymore. So I went ahead and turned pro. Truly, my dream now is to become featherweight champion of the world," says Eddie.

Freeman, a local Memphian product, was born on August 2, 1949, one of four brothers and one sister, all younger. He went to Whitehaven High School and later graduated Memphis Technical High where he learned to become an asbestos insulator. Eddie has since mastered the trade, becoming quite talented and currently his services are in high demand. He's an ardent water skier, loves all kinds of pop music, and digs pro football.

"It's really difficult to say how I became interested in boxing. I vividly recall that dad used to rave about his favorite fighter, the former great featherweight king, Willie "The Whisp" Pep," relates Eddie. "Dad was crazy about him and said if he ever had a son who was sincere about boxing, he would want him to be just like Willie. I'd hear about the Pep-Saddler brawls constantly, especially their second fight where Pep jabbed his way and put on one of the finest boxing exhibitions ever seen at New York's Madison Square Garden in regaining the title," recalls Eddie. "My uncle Raymond was the 1956 Golden Gloves Mid-South Welterweight Champion and when I was 8 years old he took me to all the fights in the area. Between him and pop, I guess that's how my boxing career began."

Freeman is 5 ft. 5 in. tall, weights 125 lbs, and is under the careful tutelage of the very capable Red Fortner, himself a former popular local amateur star who campaigned as a lightheavyweight, winning the Joey Maxim Mid-South trophy. When asked about his "handle," Eddie jokingly relates, "Most of the guys I hung around with were twice as big as me with names like 'The Moose', 'The Animal' etc., so they gave me the name, 'The Flea' because of my size."

As an amateur, Eddie was a three time city and Mid-South Golden Gloves champion, having 64 fights, with 57 wins, 30 by KO and 7 losses. One of Eddie's toughest defeats was a controversial split decision loss to the U.S. 1972 Munich Olympic entrant, popular bantamweight Timmy Demint, Bossier City, La., at Boston in the 1973 semifinals. Then came a sweet decision win over Jimmy Christensen, Des Moines, Iowa Open Golden Gloves Champion at the 1973 Finals in Lowell, Mass. During the same Finals, Freeman also soundly whipped Toledo Ohio sensation Willie Scurles, on points. Ultimately, on the last evening of the competition, Freeman suffered a truly disappointing decision loss to Cincinnati's Greg Lewis, a two time National Golden Gloves Champion.

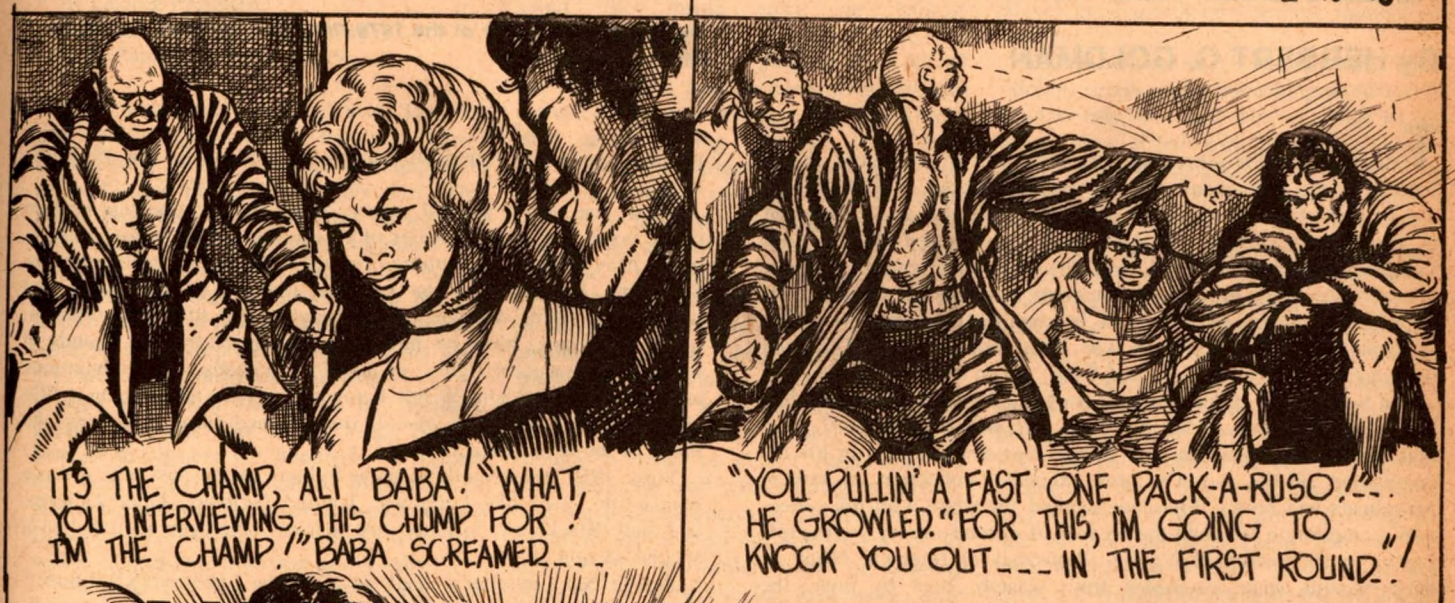


(Above) Freeman heads for neutral corner after second round knock down of Little Rock's Shannon Williams. (Below) Eddie lands a left to the body of Simmie Black en route to a third round stoppage.

Eddie's first pro fight was a two round KO of tough Rocky Belsky on May 30, 1975. Then came three more wins via the KO route over David Blevins in two heats, David Tymes in one canto, and Tommy Payne in two stanzas. On May 4, 1976, he was forced to go the full distance for the first time in registering a unanimous six round decision win over Little Rock's durable Shannon Williams, while having Wil-

(Continued on page 58)

PACKY CARUSO & ACE HAWKINS **Illustrated By Gabe Perillo** **Richie Caggiano**



The RING BOXING ENCYCLOPEDIA and RECORD BOOK

THE ONE AND ONLY SINCE 1942

By HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

Detail from the cover of the *1978 Ring Encyclopedia and Record Book*.

THE late Nat Fleischer was respected by his colleagues in the field of sports journalism, not only as the founder of THE RING, and its publisher and editor for fifty years, but also as sports editor of The New York Sun, The New York Press, and The New York Telegram. His life, however, was devoted almost entirely to boxing, and one of his greatest contributions to it was *The Ring Record Book*. So important did this work become that Fleischer was often referred to as the "Editor of The Ring magazine and *The Ring Boxing Encyclopedia and Record Book*" all in the same breath.

Nat's collection of rare boxing books and guides on boxing had been started by him in his boyhood. (He was born in 1887.) His purchase of the Polize Gazette library was a major step in his accumulation of the world's most extensive collection of boxing periodicals and books. Fleischer worked for years with his collection, compiling a file with the records of virtually every worthwhile fighter in the history of boxing—thousands of ringmen. Many of these records were assembled from scratch, bout by bout, the fighter's record never having been available in any form before.

In 1941, he set about the task of putting his material between the covers of a book. The result was *The All-Time Ring Record Book*, which came out in 1942.

Ring magazine was twenty years old by this time, respected the world over as "The Bible of Boxing." First, partly as a test, Fleischer got out a paper bound edition of his record book, limited to 250 copies. The response was overwhelming. He got out 750 copies in hard cover, but the orders didn't stop. Nat got to work and issued a revised edition of his record book the following year—and another the year after that.

So basic was the need filled by these record books that no major reference work on boxing could be compiled without extensive use of their materials. These records were, as stated, compiled by Nat Fleischer from his own sources, many of them to be found in his collection only. These sources were available to no one else.

By now, Mr. Fleischer and his staff had decided to supplement the All-Time Ring Record Books with annual editions devoted to the records of current fighters. The first of these appeared in 1945. Since the All-Time books no longer were available, the records of the world champions in each division from the start of boxing were included in the 1949 edition. The records of the title claimants, junior division and American champs were added for the 1951 edition.

There was also a gradual expansion of the encyclopedic section of the book, including histories of all divisions, ring earnings of the great heavyweight champions, receipts for fights grossing over $100,000, fighters with the greatest numbers of knockouts and consecutive fights without a loss, heavyweight title bout referees, quick knockouts, blow by blow descriptions of the last rounds of famous heavyweight fights, in addition to many other tabulations and interesting "Facts Worth Knowing." This resulted in a title change. *The Ring Encyclopedia and Record Book* has been the name of the book since 1953.

Since 1954, the records of great fighters of the past who did not win a title, men like Langford, Tommy Gibbons, Peter Jackson, and Jack Blackburn, to name just a few, have been included in a special section.

Before Nat Fleischer's death in 1972, he exhorted Nat Loubet, the present publisher, not to let the record book miss even one edition. Mr. Fleischer's wishes have been honored.

The 1978 edition of *The Ring Boxing Encyclopedia and Record Book* is now available. It contains the records of all fighters active in 1977, as well as those of all world champions, title claimants, junior and American champions in the history of boxing. The section on former greats who never held a title now includes the records of outstanding fighters of the last thirty years, like Billy Graham, Art Aragon, Laurent Dauthille, and Tony Janiro, among others, as well as the "old timers" such as Darcy, McVea, Choynski, and Jeannette.

The records of all current fighters are obtained from reports sent in from all parts of the world by 160-odd correspondents. These are checked against results obtained from numerous daily newspapers and from commission reports, as well as promoters, managers and fighters.

This volume is a guide to boxing, too. Included is a section listing the addresses and phone numbers of promoters, matchmakers, and managers. Also given are lists of champions in all parts of the world, addresses of boxing commissions (U.S. and worldwide), the membership list of the European Boxing Union, World Boxing Association officers and committee members, basic rules in use

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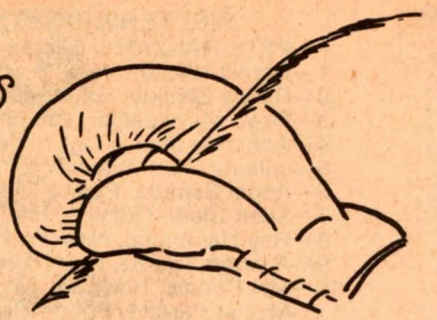
The Critic's Corner



By JOAN F. LOUBET

FIGHT DOCTOR
By Ferdie Pacheco, M.D.
Introduction by Muhammad Ali.
Illustrated, 237 pp., New York.
Simon and Schuster, $9.95.

SHADOW BOX
by George Plimpton.
Illustrated, 351 pp., New York.
G.P. Putnams's Sons, $9.95.

Well, you never know, do you. To think that I almost dismissed Dr. Ferdie Pacheco's *Fight Doctor* in my haste and anticipation to get to George Plimpton's *Shadow Box*. That would have been a sad omission because the former turned out to be nearly as much fun, certainly as informative from the boxing point of view; and the good doctor did not fare so badly as a writer, either, which should come as small surprise, considering his literary, artistic and historical interests.

Fight buffs will know that Dr. Pacheco speaks with one foot in the ring. He has worked in corners for hundreds of fighters for sheer love of the game. Modestly, he places his services far below those of Angelo Dundee, for example, for whom, with Ali, he has tremendous affection and loyalty.

"A good cut man can control cuts very well, and a great cut man . . . can save a title and possibly millions of dollars," he writes, and continues, ". . . After a fight is when I earn my keep." And, indeed, he describes a few tense post-bout services he rendered and decisions he made which bring us inside the action. Did his fighter have a fractured jaw or skull after the first Ali-Frazier fight? When Norton undisputably broke Ali's jaw, could Ali be whisked to the hospital for an operation without the usual comet-tail of followers? Bear in mind that a "fighter's doc," like Dr. Pacheco, does not have hospital privileges outside his own city, and thus bears the burden of making swift and sure arrangements.

These scenes are exciting, intimate accounts. No less exciting are the descriptions of some of the Big Ones as he saw them—the Ali-Frazier goes, the regaining of the championship in Zaire, the last Norton fight—but where lives the fight fan who hasn't already culled article after article? Perhaps for that very reason Dr. Pacheco's accounts, with all his knowledgeability and personal acumen, are a very real addition to the library.

One can well imagine the kind of stories Ali's personal physician has to tell. How about the inside story on Murray Woroner'.ventures, the antics before the Liston fights, "Doc's" ploys to keep Ali off the pies, cakes and custards when he was convinced he had hypogycemia in Africa? How about driving past the Thirty-third Street ramp three times in the maze of one-way streets which surround Madison Square Garden; or Belinda, unwilling to accept second billing as Ali's "other" wife. Don't look for a continuity, a rat-a-tat-tat of orderly events. Rather, you will find an inexorable sense of time running out like an unwinding reel of film, flickering, spotty, arrested at points on the way.

Dr. Pacheco is at his best in some of the pre-fight dressing room scenes, suspenseful enough to make us almost forget that we know perfectly well what's going to happen. And much of the charm of the book is to be found in tales of the Fifth Street Gym, or his observations on corner work or training (there is no substitute for road work, gym work, or proper diet!) flavored with bits that leave the reader chuckling—or thoughtful. Including serious and serio-comic clips on Sex and the Fighter.

In its emphasis on Ali, this is hardly an unbiased presentation. It is, perhaps, a book written too soon. Dr. Pacheco is a member of the Ali Circus, and sees the world as a foil to its star performer. Would it have been a different book if it were about a finished Ali? The answer must be affirmative. But it's fun to join the circus and see that world.

Interesting that the charisma of a man like Ali should fire the writing of two such disparate books as *Fight Doctor* and George Plimpton's *Shadow Box*. The cover lines of the first proclaim that the author "knows the upside-down world of boxing from the ground up." The second views that world from quite another angle, looking down, and runs the risk of irritating the inhabitants of same by its condecension. That is, until the reader, who should have known better in the first place, realizes that Plimpton's device of "participatory journalism" works because he deliberately plays up his striped-tie image in a collision of two worlds.

In his chosen role, Plimpton felt he could hardly continue without investigating the sport of boxing, the "ultimate confrontation;" and Archie Moore, who was in the proper weight classification and was then light heavyweight champion of the world, accepted his invitation to fight a three round exhibition "in the interests of literature." What follows is, of course, hilarious. Plimpton has a self-deprecating, almost Dickensian style, and uses contrast to best advantage. He goes to the library of the Racquet Club on Park Avenue in New York City to read up on boxing, turns himself over to George Brown to train in their gymnasium, and learns first hand the aching rigors of even the simplest elements of boxing: "what an extraordinary length of time three minutes of effort in the ring is, that even holding one's arms extended, especially with the gloves on, requires considerable stamina and strength."

The exhibition itself, while vastly entertaining, serves as the launching point for the shadow box, the show case in which he sets scene after scene with characters ranging from Papa Hemingway to Willie "The Worm" Munroe, from Truman Capote to Big Bamboo. (Ferdie Pacheco is in there, too, and some of the same stories, so that it sometimes seems like *deja vu*, but with a new slant.) Which is not to say that the scenes are static. Far from it, they are alive with action. And it's hard to pick favorite episodes. Perhaps the one with Marianne Moore, the tiny, delicate, distinguished poet, her head together with Ali's, helping "A Poem on the Annihilation of Ernie Terrell" to emerge; those describing Ernest Hemingway's unpredictable and often alarming nature, so that one never knew from one moment to the next whether he would be gracious and friendly or enraged; the remarkable and fascinating ones in the reporting Plimpton undertook on his own to track down the perpetrators of the famous heist after the Quarry fight in Atlanta, ripe with such names as Cadillac Richard Wheeler, Fast Eddie Parker, the Chicken Man, and a kid named Bulletproof (it didn't do him any good).

Early on, Ali is on stage, and that is what gives this entertaining delight a serious theme. For stalking the travels, the fights, the scenes with famous and not-so-famous characters is Plimpton's conscience. When Ali refused to take that step forward to be inducted and had his title taken away from him by all but the Ring magazine, committees were formed to try to do something about getting him reinstated.

"We sat around in one another's apartments and complained loudly that the commissions had no right to deprive Ali of his

(Continued on page 64)

UNITED STATES RING RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
* MUHAMMAD ALI, Louisville, Ky.
1—Ken Norton, San Diego, Calif.
2—Jimmy Young, Philadelphia, Pa.
3—Larry Holmes, Easton, Pa.
4—Ron Lyle, Denver, Colo.
5—Earnie Shavers, Warren, Ohio
6—Duane Bobick, Bowlus, Minn.
7—Stan Ward, Sacramento, Calif.
8—Scott LeDoux, Minneapolis, Minn.
9—Randy Stephens, Dallas, Texas
10—Leroy Jones, Denver, Colo.
11—Boone Kirkman, Seattle, Wash.
12—Jerry Quarry, Los Angeles, Calif.
13—Dino Dennis, Attleboro, Mass.
14—Kevin Isaacs, Brooklyn, N.Y.
15—Tommy Evans, Los Angeles, Calif.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
* ALVARO LOPEZ, Stockton, Calif.
1—Mike Rossman, Turnesville, N.J.
2—Matt Franklin, Philadelphia, Pa.
3—Vonzell Johnson, Columbus, Ohio
4—Bobby Cassidy, Brentwood, N.Y.
5—Eddie Gregory, Brooklyn, N.Y.
6—Richie Kates, Brighton, N.J.
7—Jerry Celestine, New Orleans, La.
8—Mike Spinks, St. Louis, Mo.
9—Jessie Burnett, Los Angeles, Calif.
10—Matt Ross, Billerica, Mass.
11—Danny Brewer, Chicago, Ill.
12—Marvin Camel, Missoula, Mont.
13—Len Hutchins, Detroit, Mich.
14—Eddie Davis, New York, N.Y.
15—Marvin Johnson, Indianapolis, Ind.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
* MARVIN HAGLER, Brockton, Mass.
1—Ronnie Harris, Akron, Ohio
2—Mike Colbert, Portland, Ore.
3—David Love, Los Angeles, Calif.
4—Bennie Briscoe, Philadelphia, Pa.
5—Tony Chiaverini, Kansas City, Mo.
6—Edgar Wallace, Phoenix, Ariz.
7—Leo Saenz, Baltimore, Md.
8—Ray Seales, Tacoma, Wash.
9—Casey Gacic, Cleveland, Ohio
10—Ray Dale, Cincinnati, Ohio
11—Bobby Watts, Philadelphia, Pa.
12—George Cooper, Oakland, Calif.
13—Erwin Williams, Los Angeles, Calif.
14—Milton Owens, Orlando, Fla.
15—Greg McPherson, Los Angeles, Calif.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
* BILLY BACKUS, Syracuse, N.Y.
1—Edgar Ross, Orlando, Fla.
2—Alvin Anderson, Baltimore, Md.
3—Ray Phillips, Dallas, Texas
4—Ralph Palladin, Baltimore, Md.
5—Jackie Smith, Boston, Mass.
6—Kevin Morgan, Las Vegas, Nev.
7—Gary Guiden, Munice, Ind.
8—Ken Bristol, New York, N.Y.
9—Mike Baker, Washington, D.C.
10—Miquel Hernandez, New York, N.Y.
11—Carlos DeLeon, Puerto Rico
12—Johnny Sullivan, Portland, Ore.
13—Larry Bonds, Denver, Colo.
14—Joey Vincent, Orlando, Fla.
15—Billy Wareham, Philadelphia, Pa.

WELTERWEIGHTS
* PETE RANZANY, Sacramento, Calif.
1—Harold Weston, New York, N.Y.
2—Randy Shields, Los Angeles, Calif.
3—Floyd Mayweather, Detroit, Mich.
4—Armando Muniz, Los Angeles, Calif.
5—Johnny Gant, Washington, D.C.
6—Angel Espada, Puerto Rico
7—Scott Clark, Orlando, Fla.
8—Ray Hammond, New York, N.Y.
9—Arcadio Suarez, New York, N.Y.
10—Mel Dennis, Houston, Texas
11—Miquel Barreto, Puerto Rico
12—Ken Crooms, Los Angeles, Calif.
13—Luis Resto, Brooklyn, N.Y.
14—Anthony Daniels, Fairmont, W.Va.
15—Wilson Bell, Detroit, Mich.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
* MONROE BROOKS, Los Angeles, Calif.
1—Jimmy Heair, Memphis, Tenn.
2—Tony Petronelli, Brockton, Mass.
3—Bruce Curry, Los Angeles, Calif.
4—Jimmy Corkum, Boston, Mass.
5—Saoul Mamby, New York, N.Y.
6—Sugar Ray Leonard, Baltimore, Md.
7—Rudy Hernandez, Los Angels, Calif.
8—Rick Folstad, Minneapolis, Minn.
9—Larry Standon, Merrick, L.I., N.Y.
10—John Turner, New York, N.Y.
11—Adolph Viruet, Puerto Rico
12—Johnny Lira, Las Vegas, Nev.
13—Luis Davila, Hartford, Conn.
14—John Rothwell, Philadelphia, Pa.
15—Robert Vasquez, Corpus Christi, Texas

LIGHTWEIGHTS
* ANDREW GANIGAN, Honolulu, Hawaii
1—Esteban DeJesus, Puerto Rico
2—Termite Watkins, Houston, Texas
3—Edwin Viruet, Puerto Rico
4—Josue Marquez, Puerto Rico
5—Howard Davis, Glen Cove, L.I., N.Y.
6—Enrique Solis, Puerto Rico
7—Ruby Ortiz, Brooklyn, N.Y.
8—Johnny Sullivan, Kearny, N.J.
9—Willie Rodriquez, Allentown, Pa.
10—Leroy Haley, Las Vegas, Nev.
11—Reynaldo Zaragoza, Stockton, Calif.
12—Aaron Pryor, Cincinnati, Ohio
13—Wade Hinnant, Philadelphia, Pa.
14—Nacho Jiminez, Los Angeles, Calif.
15—Steve Dement, Bossier City, La.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
* ALFREDO ESCALERA, Puerto Rico
1—Walter Seeley, Sayville, L.I., N.Y.
2—Frankie Baltazar, Los Angeles, Calif.
3—Arturo Leon, Phoenix, Ariz.
4—Bobby Chacon, Los Angeles, Calif.
5—Warren Matthews, New Orleans, La.
6—Roy Hernandez, San Antonio, Texas
7—Greg Coverson, Seattle, Wash.
8—Luke Ervin, Jersey City, N.J.
9—Hilbert Stevenson, Winston-Salem,
10—Francisco Villegas, Puerto Rico
11—Manuel Lujan, Los Angeles, Calif.
12—Beto Nunez, Phoenix, Ariz.
13—Alex Alatore, San Carlos, Calif.
14—Bill Pearish, Joplin, Mo.
15—Rene Silva, Los Angeles, Calif. N.C.

*Champion

FEATHERWEIGHTS

* DANNY LOPEZ, Los Angeles, Calif.
1—Ruben Castillo, Bakersfield, Calif.
2—Richard Rozelle, Las Vegas, Nev.
3—Mike Ayala, San Antonio, Texas
4—Albert Collazo, Cleveland, Ohio
5—Jimmy Martinez, Clovis, N.M.
6—Ronnie McGarvey, Baltimore, Md.
7—Jerome Artis, Philadelphia, Pa.
8—Jimmy Farrell, Rockland, Mass.
9—William Berry, Trenton, N.J.
10—David Vasquez, New York, N.Y.
11—Gaby Cantrera, San Antonio, Texas
12—Herman Montes, Los Angeles, Calif.
13—Augie Pantellas, Broomall, Pa.
14—Eddie Freeman, Memphis, Tenn.
15—Tony Stokes, New York, N.Y.

BANTAMWEIGHTS

* WILFREDO GOMEZ, Puerto Rico
1—Sean O'Grady, Oklahoma City, Okla.
2—Andres Hernandez, Puerto Rico
3—Alberto Davila, Los Angeles, Calif.
4—Frank Duarte, Los Angeles, Calif.
5—Artemio Jeronimo, Los Angeles, Calif.
6—Ignacio Osorno, Los Angeles, Calif.
7—Earl Large, Phoenix, Ariz.
8—Baby Kid Chocolate, Philadelphia, Pa.
9—Jeff Chandler, Philadelphia, Pa.
10—Oscar Muniz, Los Angeles, Calif.
11—Andres Torres, Puerto Rico
12—Jose Rosa, Puerto Rico
13—Sergio Reyes, Los Angeles, Calif.
14—Paterson Marin, Puerto Rico
15—Harrison Kiger, San Antonio, Texas

FLYWEIGHTS

* ALBERTO SANDOVAL, Los Angeles, Calif.
1—Joey Olivo, Los Angeles, Calif.
2—Salvatore Vasquez, Los Angeles, Calif.
3—Freddy Gonzalez, Los Angeles, Calif.
4—D.C.Dunningham, Cincinnati, Ohio
5—David Ramahlo, Lowell, Mass.
6—Mario Chavez, Los Angeles, Calif.
7—Alfonso Vasquez, Los Angeles, Calif.
8—Paz Mena, Los Angeles, Calif.
9—Orlando Maldonado, Puerto Rico
10—Willie Jansen, Las Vegas, Nev.

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ORIENTAL RINGMEN

(Continued from page 31)

with world top notchers soon because of his talented speed and skills.

Japan's national leader Kenji Kato recaptured re-won crown from Chikara Igarashi by giving him a harsh knockdown on June 27, but barely kept it via hard-fought draws with Igarashi in the return on September 19 and with Nobuyuki Watanabe over 10 heats on December 4.

In the JUNIOR FLYWEIGHT division, after Gushiken, there are some good Thai fighters: Montsayarm Mahachai and Netrnoi Vorasing, but Mahachai was knocked out by Gushiken in the fourth round on October 9, and 19-year-old Netrnoi, once The Ring's prospect of the month, was beaten by Luis Estaba as the 37-year-old champ's eleventh challenger in Caracas on October 30.

Korea expects promising Park Chan-Hee to have a bright future. Park, with plenty of amateur medals in Asian Games, fought in 127 contests before he made a fine pro debut stopping Japan's Chuji Muto in only 132 seconds in Pusan City on July 8. Speedy and sharp, Park gained an important win over OPBF champ Chung Sang-Il with a well timed ninth round knockdown in 10 non-title rounds on October 1. Since Park's amateur days, his ability had been evaluated highly.

Champ Chung, also ex-amateur ringster with a 7-1-1 record, had to say a goodbye to his title, as he was outscored by lefty puncher and countryman Kim Sung-Jun, in 12 heats of Seoul on January 29.

New Titleholder Kim, whose record now stands at 16-5-1, was a game lefty who had dropped Shoji Oguma, then lost a decision in his previous performance at Korakuen Hall, Tokyo.

MURPHY KO'S LOFTON

By ART MAXIM

Embassy Hall, North Bergen, New Jersey — Despite the worst snow storm in a decade promoter Al Certo hosted a capacity house at Embassy Hall in North Bergen, New Jersey, and in turn treated the fans to one of the more exciting cards in this area in quite some time.

The highlight of the night was the feature bout with comeback kid "Irish" Pat Murphy knocking out Alex Lofton in 2:36 of the second round. Murphy, at 159 pounds, picked his punches right and set Lofton up with a right and finished him with a hard left. This was Murphy's second win on the comeback trail and he felt in much better shape than his first fight. "After dropping another twelve pounds," Murphy commented, "I'll feel ready for anybody."

Sal San Filippo, fighting for just the second time professionally, ran into a gutsy Howie Bernstein, who was making his pro debut. Bernstein, a New York City cab driver, had never been in the ring before, but stood toe-to-toe with the 6-2 San Filippo until the more experienced light-heavyweight staggered the cabbie in the third round. Referee Paul Vonti stopped the contest with 37 seconds to go in the round. Sal won the contest, but Howie won the crowds heart.

In a 121 pound match Luis Rivera avenged the only loss of his young career taking a close decision over Jimmy Magnifico. The two banged away at close range throughout the four rounder.

Former AAU champion Gino Perez (135) overwhelmed an inexperienced Jimmy Kolb, knocking him out at 1:05 of the first in a scheduled four rounder.

Promising featherweight Angel Ortiz scored a TKO over Pablo Nieves in the fifth of a bout set for six. Ortiz had Nieves down three times before the referee stopped the contest.

In a heavyweight bout, Al Brooks, who had been inactive for six years, lost a close decision to Al Benjamin.

In other action, Bobby Mann KO'd middleweight Bruce Whittle at 1:54 in the second; the Rosenberg brothers won going away, with Razor (146) scoring a TKO at 2:46 in the third over Darnell McCrae and Rusty knocking out Ray Garcia with 2:25 gone in the first round of middleweight action.

Hempstead, Long Island, New York—Promoter Sam Glass, despite the Northeast's bad weather, had over 1,000 fans at Hempstead's Calderone Theater and the five bout card was reasonably exciting.

Gerry Cooney, the unbeaten heavyweight from Long Island, failed to work up a sweat in knocking out Austin Johnson of Paterson, N.J. in 83 seconds. Referee Billy Graham counted Johnson out at 1:23 after Cooney unloaded five punches—four left hooks and a right—and Johson crumbled against the ring post in a neutral corner.

Ronnie Harris of Ohio, left his home in snowbound Canton at 7 A.M. and didn't arrive at ringside until 10 P.M. for his feature with Angel Ortiz. Harris, a top-ranked middleweight who has hopes of fighting world champion Rodrigo Valdez later this year, took every round on the cards of the three officials. It was an interesting fight but Ortiz never seemed to mount an offensive.

Hubert Hilton made his first pro fight in nine years a short one, scoring a third round technical knockout over Mike Ruiz, who quit in a neutral corner after taking a left hook to the stomach.

In other bouts, Eddie Davis, unbeaten Freeport lightweight, punched his way to a unanimous ten-round decision over Luis Rodriquez of Paterson, New Jersey, who fought on courageously after suffering a bloody nose and a gash on his left eyelid midway through the fight. Reggie Ford of Guiana and Morris Watkins, also of Freeport, were given a standing ovation az the finish of their six rounder. The win went to Ford, but he knew Watkins was there.

KANSAS CITY SEES FIRST WOMEN'S PRO CARD

Kansas City — In a fight billed as the world's women's junior lightweight championship in Kansas City's Memorial Hall, Toni Lear Rodriquez beat Baby Bear James (Tansy Louise Stevenson) via unanimous decision. This was the first professional women's bout ever held in Kansas City, but it was also another first: it was the first 10 round women's bout sanctioned by the World Women's Boxing Association. 8 ounce gloves were worn.

Rodriquez had considered experience on James, having fought her way through 20 pro fights to her opponent's eight, but Baby Bear showed her potential and ability to take a punch, as well as exhibiting a good right hand. Lear is presently ranked No. 1 in her division.

In other fights on the card: middleweight LeRoy Green Jr., Kansas City, halted Johnny Heard, Chicago, in the seventh when the doctor stopped the bout; heavyweight Ron Draper, Kansas City, beat Johnny Robinson, Kansas City, over four; middleweight Gary Guiden, Muncie, Ind., TKO'd Angel Espada, Chicago, in two.

11,000 fans turned out for the show.

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RINGSIDE WITH "Sailor" Don Sauer

By DON SAUER

Marvin Hagler, Brockton, Mass., an outstanding middleweight contender, continues to be frozen from a title shot.

THEY talk about coming up the hard way—they tell of their trials and tribulations along the fistic trail—MARVIN HAGLER is a case of meeting and beating the best—but still not being able to garner a world title shot. HAGLER ventured into the "lions den" when he journeyed to Philadelphia so many times—against the best in the middleweight division—and came back to Brockton, Mass., a winner—Philadelphia, a hot bed for outstanding middleweights, hasn't changed. They want no more of HAGLER—Apparently, neither does the champion!! HAGLER certainly has come up the hard way—but is this as far as he will go—number one contender? The boxing public deserves the very best—HAGLER has made his mark in world boxing circles and is entitled to a world title fight—Now is the time. MARVIN will hit his 25th birthday this year. He turned professional in May of 1973 after winning the 1973 National A.A.U. middleweight title—and then proceeded to raise havoc with the middleweight division. . . To put an icing on the cake, he virtually destroyed the number one man, MIKE COLBERT—not only stopping him, but fracturing his jaw and ending COLBERT'S career!! There is no one left for MARVIN HAGLER but the champion—This has to be the year for him—The public should demand this match! . . . Two little guys proved they can still punch—ROBERTO DURAN and ALEXIS ARGUELLO—Both came home winners over ESTEBAN DeJESUS and ALFREDO ESCALERA, respectively—Now a confrontation between the two is in the making. . . . Former heavyweight champion, INGEMAR JOHANSSON is now living in Florida. . . . Congratulations to JAY EDSON, who travels far and wide as a boxing referee, for taking that long walk down the aisle—Yes, JAY took his matrimonial vows after all these years. . . . Too bad that they didn't have a "cornerman" when PETE RANZANY met MANDO MUNIZ—This loss by RANZANY (cuts) will cost promoter BABE GRIFFIN a lot money in the future—Now he has to start all over again with the ex-soldier—This is why a cornerman is so important in boxing. . . . Former heavyweight contender LOU NOVA now based in Las Vegas—LOU told me recently: "They make so much money in Nevada on gambling that the casino operators look down on gamblers that don't lose at least a grand a day". So true, LOU. . . . Old fight mentor, PINKIE GEORGE out in Des Moines, Iowa, has decided to bring middleweight LAMONT LOVELADY out of drydock for fistic action this spring—LOVELADY has had bad mitts, but a medico in that area has treated the lad and says they will withstand it now—Time will tell. . . . ANGELO DUNDEE did his usual great job as "color-man" for the ROBERTO DURAN-ESTEBAN DeJESUS lightweight title tiff—then was off for Phoenix to take care of DAVID LOVE for his bout with EDGAR "BAD-NEWS" WALLACE. ANGELO is on the move from day to day—real busy boxing man, great for the game. . . . Very little remains of the old color bar in South Africa—in fact it has effectively disappeared. Discrimination on the basis of color in all sports is rapidly going out over there—and as usual it was boxing which showed them the way! While in South Africa, PIERRE FOURIE, four time challenger for the world light-heavyweight crown, is now an affluent farmer and businessman near Johannesburg—He runs a pretty huge gymnasium in Johannesburg as well and has started to manage and train a few fighters and do small promotions. FOURIE made a great deal of money out of boxing and he has kept practically all of it. He is a very personable and intelligent guy—an absolute credit to boxing. . . . Former world title contender, WILLIE TOWELL now trains and manages CHARLIE WEIR, a brilliant 21-year-old jr. middleweight with seven kayoes in eight pro fights. . . . The pride and joy of South Africa now is heavyweight GERRIE COETZEE, who has all of the physical attributes to get to the top of the heap—he is almost exactly the same size as ALI, 22 years old, a good puncher, and very fast—COETZEE is a rough and tough customer in the ring and would certainly give a fading ALI a better argument than the BUGNERS and COOPMANS of this world. . . . His one big problem, unfortunately, is brittleness of the hands. . . . The other heavyweight in those parts, KALLIE KNOETZE, a burly policeman from Pretoria, can really hit—He destroyed MIKE SCHUTTE and RICHARD DUNN—KNOETZE is being trained and managed by BILLY LOTTER, former South African heavyweight champion. . . . BILLY started his career as a lightweight and ended up as heavyweight. . . . He was one of the best spoilers of his day—and mentors of "glamor" fighters hated the sight of him as he could make the best of them look real bad—He is also an active guy in boxing circles over there today. . . . COETZEE is handled by his father, but he has a regiment of "advisors and counsellors" in attendance, which could prove to be a bad omen. . . One head is much better than four or five!! . . . . JERRY QUARRY back with GIL CLANCY—Regardless, JERRY had better give it a second thought after his dismal showing at Vegas—If he had been in with a guy who could punch a bit, QUARRY would have been kayoed. . . . Sorry to hear that BERT LEWIS, who managed GIL CADILLI and JOHN THOMAS, died in California at the age of 80—BERT was a real credit to the game. . . . The California State Athletic Commission welcomed new member MRS. OLGA FITKOVA CONNOLLY to her first official meeting recently—also approved a promoter's license for former bantamweight contender, JESUS PIMENTAL. His financial angels will be REDD FOXX, the comic, and the comical HARRY KABAKOFF, boxing manager. . . . Orlando middleweight EDGAR "MAD-DOG" ROSS has been sending letters to PATTI JO FRENCH, a 21-year-old Belle Island, Fla., woman who lost both her arms in a car-train accident in November of 1974—ROSS has been inspired by the way she has battled back to lead a normal life. . . . Congratulations to BRUCE TRAMPLER, who replaces DUKE STEFANO at the Garden in N.Y.—He'll start at $25,000 and will be groomed as the successor to TEDDY BRENNER, current matchmaker and director of boxing at the Garden.

RODRIGUEZ EDGES OUT O'CONNOR

By GEORGE D. BLAIR

Minneapolis, Minn. The long awaited encounter between local rivals Pat O'Connor of Rochester and Rafael Rodriguez of Minneapolis finally took place at the Auditorium. Promoters had been trying to secure the bout since 1975, but problems with managers and promoters kept the match from coming off. Less than five days before the fight, its taking place was in doubt, but a court order finally allowed it to come off before 2,345 fans, and a $23-,705. gate.

The fight was a sizzler, closely contested as both fighters put forth their best effort. At the end of ten hard rounds Rodriguez was ajudged the winner by a split decision. O'Connor weighed in at 159, Rodriguez 153. There were no knockdowns.

Rodriguez started fast, as he usually does, and set the tone for the match. Rafael's body punching won him the early rounds. In the third round, a Rodriguez right to the head staggered O'Connor and he followed with a left hook to the body, but O'Connor boxed his way out of trouble.

Rodriguez seemed to tire a little in the middle rounds, but he was still able to counter O'Connor's leads with sharp shots to the body or head to maintain the lead he had established in the early frames.

O'Connor did come on in the last three rounds in an effort to overcome Rafael's lead. Pat threw more right hands in the late rounds than he usually does. Both boxers were tired in the last round as they both tried to cement a victory with a final round assault. Rodriguez was the more successful. The Rodriguez right uppercut was also a very effective punch.

The scoring was as follows: referee Denny Nelson, 97-96 Rodriguez, judge Wally Holm 96-95 Rodriguez, and judge JeRoy Benson 97-97, a draw. The margin of victory for Rodriguez seemed to be at least five points, as he was clearly in control throughout most of the fight.

The victory for Rodriguez upped his record to 21-7-1, and was his first win since 1976. For O'Connor it was his first match in eighteen months and the loss left his pro log at 40-5-0. Both boxers spoke of a rematch. "Yes, I'd fight him again, but it would have to be for more money," Rodriguez said. O'Connor said "I'd need another fight, first. I feel good about this fight, even though I lost."

In preliminary action middleweight Mike Morgan, Richfield, Minn. (18-11-3), knocked out last minute sub Larry Puchta of Milwaukee in the third round.

Martin Jenkins, New York jr. welter, won a six round decision over veteranAl Franklin, Minneapolis (36-38-3). Where the commission was on this fight is anybody's guess as Franklin should not have been allowed to fight as he was stopped 15 days earlier by Anthony Daniels in Knoxville, Tenn. Apparently, the commission doesn't care about the lives of these guys, or the rules. This same thing happened three times last year, but no one seems to care.

In the opener Minneasota history was made as the first women's pro match took place. Sue Carlson of Minneapolis decisioned Bonnie Presswood of QUincy, Ill. over four rounds of a featherweight bout.

Jerry Coughlin of Minneapolis and Jerome Plunkett of Rochester were reappointed to the Minneasota State Board of Boxing for another term each. Without a doubt, Coughlin is the best commmissioner the state has had in many years.

SCHLITZ COMPETITION WELL RECEIVED

By ED SCULLEN

Washington, D.C. — Since the New Year began, the National Capital Area boxing scene has been sparked by two rounds of the Schlitz Future Parade of Champions, a competition designed to crown area champions in ten weight classes.

Despite some rather slim offerings by the Schlitz competition, which is jointly backed by the brewery and the host D.C. Armory/Starplex Board, the mid-week bouts have been well-received by the public. The initial eight bout card, held on a rainy Wednesday evening, attracted 3,527 payees and a six-bout card held two weeks later, brought 2,763 through the turnstiles.

The Schlitz competition was originally conceived by its organizers, led by Armory chairman Willis Johnson, as an opportunity for young fighters leaving the amateur ranks to gain recognition while earning a few dollars. The payoffs in the first two rounds are $120 and $180 against $80 and $120 for the losers of the four rounders. In addition, local toughs who had never donned a boxing glove have been invited to try their skills. The results are somewhat mixed, with some matches producing legitimate contests between good young fighters, while other bouts have resembled barroom brawls, not very good ones either.

According to present plans, the tournament will run four more rounds before concluding on May 24 with the seventh card of the tournament. The payoff to winners in each class is reputed to be $3,000, but with purses approximately doubling in each successive round, it's a good bet that admissions which have so far been held at tops of $5 and $8, will increase accordingly.

In first round competition, heavyweight David Johnson of Seat Pleasant, Md. had no trouble disposing of D.C. resident Tito Fontane. Fontane, who had had one previous pro bout in 1969, was first downed by a right to the cheekbone thrown by the 6'5" Johnson. Arising on shaky pins, Fontane was quickly trapped in a corner and poleaxed with another right, causing the referee to call a halt at 1:35 of the first. In earlier bouts, middleweight Keith Broom stopped James Avents at 1:16 of round two and welterweight Odell Leonard had too much savvy for Job Corps-trained Sylvester Harris, putting him away at 1:58 of round one with a right-left combo to the body and head.

In another welter go, Bob McGarvey survived a first round knockdown and came back to wear down Nathan Slye with a blistering body attack. With time running out in the final round, and McGarvey gaining a comfortable lead, a solid right to the body put a wilted Slye to the canvas where the referee intervened. And 27-year-old College Park bricklayer, Bob Pdrich was tapped out in two rounds by experienced George Williams.

In an unfortunate eight round heavyweight bout, former top-ranker Larry Middleton waltzed past Emperor Joe Harris. Judging from this showing, both should retire to give the paying public a break.

Two weeks after the Schlitz debut, the tournament returned to the Armory with a card of five four rounders topped by a ten round Roland Pryor-Art McKnight welterweight contest.

Pryor, inactive for several years until his successful comeback last December at the Armory, landed a power right to McKnight's chin in round one which nearly ended hostilities for the night. But the 24-year-old former two-time Golden Glove champ from Cleveland recovered nicely, and was battling on even terms by the end of the round. The bout then see-sawed through the remaining nine rounds with McKnight landing well with an educated left and Pryor landing powerful left-right combos followed by an occasional uppercut. McKnight managed to cut Pryor on the left eyebrow in round three, but his corner stopped the flow, and the 33-year-old journeyman was generally able to stay on top, although McKnight came back with a slam-bang finish in the final three frames.

But then came problems. The decision was announced as a split-verdict in favor of Pryor, which did not sit well with much of the crowd. A check of the officials' cards, however, showed referee John Snead's tally of 96-all to be a mistake. Pryor had actually won by two points, giving a unanimous nod to Pryor. One of the local dailies picked this up, and tabbed the whole affair a "home town decision" and labeled the scoring "sham." The Ring saw the bout as a close, not especially attractive 97-95 win for Pryor, but it is highly unlikely that anything resembling chicanery was involved.

In the four rounders, middleweight C.J. Faison unanimously decisioned Karim El-Amin, and lightweight Otis (Super Hoop) Hooper stopped Clifton Haywood at 2:23 of round three. In two other middleweight contests, Mike Farrell of Palmer Park stopped Charles Carter of the District in round one and Arlington's Bobby Payton punched out a close decision over Wilbert Crows of the District. A light-heavyweight contest was declared a forfeit win for Leonard Langley when opponent Joe Sprewl was incapacitated by the flu.

PRO BOXING RETURNS TO MISSISSIPPI

By JOEL LIPSITT

▲Greenville Athletic Club Inc, Greenville, Miss.—The return of professional boxing to Mississippi since the early forties was a rip-roaring success. Murry Roark, likeable local promoter, was extremely happy with the response to his first show. The big, enthusiastic crowd, an estimated 1,100, left buzzing with approval.

About the only disappointment was the ten round feature stellar event, which lasted but 1:30 of the first canto. The U.S. fourth ranked junior welterweight and Southern Junior Welterweight Champion, slick punching Jimmy Heair, 141, Memphis, Tenn., was just a little too fast for young Donnie London, 143, Little Rock, Ark. The former native Houston (Miss.) belter poleaxed London with a devastating left hook to the liver. This writer observed that it had reached the count of six before London grasped his first breath as referee Henry Moscow tolled the final count. Heair upped his seven-and-half year career record to 66-12-1.

Heair was obviously the one they came to see but it was his close friend and stablemate, the little slugging Memphian featherweight Eddie "The Flea" Freeman, they left screaming about.

Freeman, 125, although outweighed by ten lbs., ran his career record to 19-1 with a sensational TKO win over the rough tough veteran Simmie Black, 135, Memphis, Tenn., at 1:01 of the fifth of the scheduled eight round semifinal. It was a typical old fashion St. Nicholas Arena "pier six brawl" from the opening bell. Both battlers stood toe-to-toe exchanging furious combinations, but it was Freeman's more accurate and heavier body punching that were eventually to spell doom for the courageous Black.

The fight was stopped for three minutes with only 47 seconds left in the fourth, when Black claimed he was struck by a low blow. When one of the judges concurred, the referee gave Black the rest. The moment the bell sounded for the fatal fifth, Freeman leaped from his stool, rushed Black and caught him with a pulverizing right to the temple followed by a flurry of punches, sending Black reeling helplessly into the arms of referee Clyde Weeks, who wisely halted the fracas.

The only fight that went the distance was the hectic six round middleweight battle won by Mike Westrich, 165, Southhaven, Miss., over lanky Robert Thomas, 163, Memphis, Tenn., on a unanimous decision.

In a short lived non-stop slam-bang four round middleweight brawl, a 22-year-old newcomer, heavy punching Charles Smith, 169, Bossier City, La., using heavier artillery, dropped gamster Franklin Otts, 158, Cleveland, Miss., twice before icing him at 2:11 of the first stanza. In the opening seconds, Otts bloodied Smith's nose with a smashing overhand right, stunned him, and got a little gunny. This is when Otts got careless and ran into two vicious left hooks below the right eye which excited him for the evening.

In the four round heavyweight curtain raiser, former Mid-South Heavyweight Champion and now Boxing Commissioner with the Tennessee Athletic Commission, veteran Jimmy Cross, 219, Memphis, Tenn., trying to make a comeback after being away from the game two years, scored a TKO win over tall Ronny Stepheny, 202, Millington, Tenn., at 2:10 of the second after having him down twice in the 1st.

▲HOLIDAY INN RIVERMONT, MEMPHIS TN.—Before an estimated crowd of 2,000, former top lightweight contender back in the early seventies, Memphian belter Jimmy Heair, 140, continued on his comeback campaign for a title shot by scoring his 12th consecutive win, 11 by KO, and upped his record to 67-12-1 by TKOing rugged gamester Robert Tijerina, 142, Ft. Worth, Tex. at the end of the third round when it was discovered that Tijerina had suffered a severely cracked left rib.

Heair, the Memphian darling has recently developed into a notorious body puncher. After a slow feeling out process in the first, Heair began in the second to take Tijerina with savage body wallops, hurting him and causing him to return to his corner on rubbery wheels.

In the third, Tijerina stormed back with a flurry of punches in an effort to stem Heair's onslaught but to no avail. At the end of the third, Tijerina wobbled back to his corner grasping his left side at which time the ring physician diagnosed the injury.

In the most exciting brawl of the evening, the eight round junior welterweight semifinal tussle, local Memphian favorite Clarence Gilmore, 141, scored an impressing stunning TKO win over courageous Billy Miller, 139, Ft. Worth, Tex. at 2:20 of the sixth. From the opening bell neither fighter took a backward step as both boys stood toe-to-toe waging a real ring war. The crowd roared with approval after each round.

Early in the second, a wicked Gilmore left hook sliced open Miller's nose causing a steady flow of blood. However, Miller, as game as they come, retaliated with his own two fisted attack to bloody Gilmore's mouth and nose as both boys bled heavily in taking turns rocking each other. As the battle progressed, Gilmore's relentless body assault finally got to the tough Texas battler as he was decked twice in the fifth by rights to the body for 9 counts.

In the fatal sixth, Miller, although on queer street, was fighting back desperately, frequently staggering Gilmore with chopping rights to the head, until a terrific right to the body floored him for a 9 count. When he arose and was no longer able to defend himself, ref Herman Stevens wisely called a halt to a great fracas. The crowd gave both boys a 3 minute standing ovation for their performance.

In a short-lived six round heavyweight fight, heavy punching young Roberto Rockett, 196, Millington, Tn., won his fifth fight in a row and upped his record to 5-0-1 as he TKO'd Harold Brown, 202, Killeen, Tex., a last minute subsitute for Ft. Worth's Fred Wallace, at 2:50 of the second after having Brown down twice in the round. Two tremendous left hooks square on the button put the lights out for Brown.

In a grueling four rounder, heavyweight Lynn Ball, 208, Ft. Worth, Tex., stayed in close and mauled his way to a hard fought unanimous decision win over sluggish Larry Alexander, 210, a former Mississippian native (Greenville). Alexander, a noted puncher, fought Ball's fight and was unable to get off his usual explosive shots.

In the companion opening four rounder, showman Phil Reed, 152, Hughes, Ark., returned to action after a brief layoff and danced his way to a unanimous lackluster decision win over inexperienced Eddie Partee, 152, Memphis, Tn.

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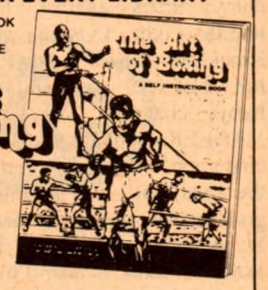

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MONZON # 1?

(Continued from page 13)

as the very standard by which boxing greatness is measured. In light of his picturesque talents, Sugar Ray, among all others, would be favored by many to give the Argentine his most severe test.

It is certain that Carlos would here face a marvelous opponent and a ring technician of unforgettable skill and science. True, as well, he typically has not featured the sudden coup de grace with which Ray demolished Bobo Olson and Gene Fullmer. Still, in this regard, there are some things to be said on behalf of Monzon, one an observation often attributed to Carlos himself. While Ray won the same championship five times, and lost it four, Carlos never gave up the title to make himself a contender for similar repeat honors. He, in fact, has not lost since 1964, avenging each of three early decision setbacks in his homeland.

Second, it is often forgotten that Ray fought many of his best years as a welterweight, annexing the heavier honors in 1951 at age 30. The same year, he lost on points to England's Randy Turpin, and subsequently met defeat at the hands of Fullmer and Carmen Basilio. Days short of his 35th birthday, Carlos announced a long pondered retirement with crown intact, the victor in every major bout of his career.

A pairing of the two would pit the Argentine's systematic and brutal method against the speed, flash and daring of a man whom many recall to be the greatest pound-for-pound battler in ring history. Carlos would give away something in style for this one, nothing in confidence and self-esteem. It would have been Ray's lightning left hook against Carlos' punishing overhand ring, with neither man the easy mark for an abrupt finish.

While Ray's boxing skills were many, he would have found it difficult to play toreador to the ever poised and erect stance of the hardmuscled Argentine, whose spearing jab can break the way for the trailing right cross and bludgeoning hook which can rake both head and body. Carlos would not punch with Ray's combination rapidity, but his blows would come often and with stoic ferocity, hurting the body and rattling the head with his right hand extended over Ray's jab.

Carlos' staying power would endure to the end, making possible a knockout in the fight's later stages, with his own chin firmly set behind a steady and purposeful attack.

Carlos, again, rates a fair chance in this last bit of hypothesis, consistent boxing and bruising efficiency his ticket to a probable win. If Robinson *was* the best pound-for-pound, it is not enough to insure that he would have beaten Carlos at their respective peaks. Ray, as a middleweight, was a remarkable competitor; he was neither unbeaten nor unbeatable.

It can finally be asked how Carlos compares, on the whole, with divisional champions of yesteryear. It appears that in all essential departments he fares quite well, one of the game's better punchers with exceptional marks for time-tested durability and stamina. He is a ring general who carries to battle the cumulative education of every one of his currently more than 100 professional bouts. In the last 83 of these he is unbeaten.

If Carlos Monzon, then, is not the greatest middleweight of all time, he is almost certainly one of the three or four best ever to hold the crown. Taller and appreciably stronger than nearly all those before him, he has fought for more than 14 years with skills which were honed in the dank gymnasiums of South America, and eventually were proved under the ring lights of Rome and Monte Carlo against competition of the age. There is no mistaking his supremacy over challengers of the present division, and little doubt that he would have been a sizable match for those of the past. His flatfooted ability to end bouts within the distance was dramatically in evidence against highly regarded former champions Nino Benvenuti and Emile Griffith, against whom Carlos has spared us the task of theoretical comparison. The same may be said for his routine devastation of welterweight king Jose Napoles.

As a counterpuncher, Carlos would be favored to win by knockout over most of the competition since Ketchel.

There is, yet, much to be said in this vein regarding the timeworn athletic problem of old versus new. Certainly, the earlier generations produced their share of fistic talent, and it is unlikely that each of today's champions is the best which has yet graced the throne of his division. If, in the end, we defenders of the present era have trouble convincing those who remember Ketchel, Greb and Walker, perhaps there is some consolation. For one day, amidst the round-robin of similar debate, we may find ourselves called upon to uphold the best of our own generation against what has followed it. We will remember a tall and fearless conqueror from the Pampas, and will tell stories of our own.

PUNCH LINES

(Continued from page 33)

he can be. Another thing that made me angry was watching Eddie Gregory do virtually nothing against Victor Galindez in the last five rounds. If he had fought with all his heart he could have won. It wasn't just another fight, it was title shot—a fighter's one chance to be champion—and he did nothing! The reason most titles are held by fighters from other countries is that they are prepared for title shots and they try their absolute hardest to win. Americans should try to do this. Then we would have many more American champions.

Brian W. Smith
Bath, Pa.

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BENITEZ OVER CURRY

(Continued from page 19)

reador seriously, and moved in and out, stabbing and jolting the ever pressing Curry, who chased his elusive opponent in vain.

From the sixth round on, the pace moved into high gear, and the seventh had the crowd cheering as a courageous Curry landed effective blows to the body but received much more than he dished out. The action was so fast that referee Tony Perez caught a good shot on his eye thrown by Benitez when both men continued to exchange blows after the bell ended the round.

Curry had a bloody nose beginning with round seven and it continued for the remainder of the fight. The last two rounds were all the fans could ask for, as both men stood toe to toe on several occasions, with Curry proving he came to fight but just lacked the skill to compete with the smoothly operating boxing abilities of Benitez.

As this is being written, Benitez has several offers of lucrative fights with Roberto Duran, the world lightweight champion, Carlos Palomino, the world welter title holder and Alex Arguello, who is fighting as a junior lightweight. According to sources close to Benitez, the Duran fight has the inside track if sufficient moolah is put into the hat for Wilfredo. Despite the fine showing of Benitez, it would seem that Duran, who may not be at his prime, may still have too much in punching power for the younger man.

The semifinal bout featured an aging Bennie Briscoe, a Philadelphian who had gone to the wars 55 times, against Vito Antuofermo, a Brooklyn, New York middleweight with aspirations for world championship honors. Briscoe has had three shots at the middleweight crown, but has never quite made it. He lost to Carlos Monzon of Argentina and was a loser in his two outings with Rodrigo Valdes of Colombia, the current middleweight champ.

Briscoe was also a loser, according to the official verdict, in his bout with Antuofermo. Judge Aidala had it 6 to 3 for Antuofermo, judge Reid had it 7-2-1 for Antuofermo and the referee Harold Valan had it 7-3, for Antuofermo.

Your writer must have been at another arena, for the fight did not appear to be that one sided, unless I closed one eye, which I rarely do. At best, the fight could have been a draw, with Antuofermo taking it on his showing in the last two rounds, in which he came on strong. But for the first six sessions, it was Briscoe who used all of his savvy, boxing superbly as he moved from side to side, in and out, and bobbed and weaved sufficiently to cause his heavier punching opponent to miss more often than he landed. It was Briscoe who landed more effectively in the early going with his overhand rights, and he held off the oncoming Antuofermo with a nice, stiff, snapping left jab that won the early rounds for him.

The fight will go into The Ring Record book for Antuofermo and those guiding his future will now begin the usual scream for a shot at the middleweight title held by Valdes. And so it goes.

In the curtain opener, Tommy McNeece, of Oakdale, L.I., won a four round unpopular decision over Cornell Chavis of New York.

In the other two bouts, six rounders, Mike Michaud of East Meadow lost a unanimous decision to Justice Ortiz of Brooklyn and Willie Classen of New York took a unanimous decision over his much shorter opponent, Larry (Tumbler) Davis in a middleweight fight that saw the loser on the canvas in the second for a seven count.

CHAVEZ UNIMPRESSIVE IN WIN OVER PINNA

By FRANK ALLNUTT

MONTREAL—Due to a broken bone in his right hand which required surgery, Canadian welterweight champion Guerrero Chavez (Montreal) made his return to ring action after six months by headlining the promotion at the Montreal Forum against Efisio Pinna (Italy).

A sluggish, rusty and at times lazy Chavez (145) was a unanimous ten round decision winner over the former Italian lightweight champion, Pinna (145).

There were no knockdowns during the bout, a bleeding nose suffered by Pinna being the only sight of blood, and the fans were hooting and howling for more action at the midway mark. Chavez did nothing to impress the Montreal fans. Headlining a card at the Montreal Forum is not the place to waltz through a workout.

By far the best bout on the card was the sparkling ten round lightweight bout between Gaeton Hart (Hull), 130½, and Ralph Racine (Niagara Falls), 135. This bout produced the fast action that fight fans love to see, a bout where a third man in the ring is unnecessary. Both boxers knew what they were there for. Showing a repeat performance of the fine boxing he displayed in beating Barry Sponagle in his last showing in Montreal, Hart ran out a unanimous winner over Racine. A correct decision, although through the entire ten rounds there was little to choose between the fighters.

The win for Hart will place him next in line for a title shot at Cleveland Denny. When that bout is made it will be a sell-out.

In a middleweight ten, Canadian middleweight champion Fernand Marcotte Jr. (Montreal), 158, was never really extended by Ken Blackwell (Philadelphia), 159) who was KO'ed at 2:27 of the ninth round. Blackwell, with a reach advantage, seemed content to jab his left hand out and stay a safe distance away from the body punching Marcotte. Both Fighters opened up in the seventh round, but Blackwell could not cope in close with the short power punches of Marcotte and failed to punch his way out of trouble.

Applying pressure in the ninth round Marcotte took his man out for the full count.

Over eight rounds and making his first appearence since losing the lightweight championship to Cleveland Denny, Jean Lapointe (Montreal), 133½, and Nick Furlano (Toronto), 133½, went through the distance at a real fast clip with the official decision being declared a draw. Lapointe came on strong in the final two rounds and the judges figured that he had evened the score with Furlano. Another good bout for a rematch.

Over six rounds Alain Turenne (Montreal), 150, breezed to a unanimous decision over Jacques Iveno (Sorel), 155.

▲**TORONTO**—On a pro-am card held at the St. Lawrence Market, Bobby Hughes (Toronto), 139, and Johnny Summerhays (Bratford), 136, went at it for ten rounds in a bout that was marred by constant holding and clinching with each boxer being guilty. At the conclusion the officials called it a split decision for the loud mouth Hughes.

At the lightweight limit, Leo Marsh, 139, stopped Robert Bath, 139, at the 2:13 mark of the third round. Both are local boxers.

In a light heavyweight go Willie Featherstone (Havelock), 164, halted Murray Sutherland (Brantford), 168, in 52 seconds of the third round. Featherstone was making his pro debut.

▲**TORONTO**—Cashing in on the so called pro-am cards which are now running in Toronto with little or no control over them, two hundred and thirty fans crowded into a barroom at the Orchard Park Tavern at $10.00 a crack. In the only two six round pro bouts heavyweight Ron Rouselle (Toronto) won a unanimous decision over Mike Chrum. Also in a heavyweight go Chuck Finlay (Toronto) halted Ron Burton at 1:22 of the sixth round. Chrum and Burton were billed out of St. Louis.

▲**EDMONTON**—3,100 fans turned out for the first pro show held at the Edmonton Coliseum. They clicked the turnstiles to $32,308. Headlining the card over ten rounds, Commonwealth welterweight champion Clyde Gray (Toronto), 148½, had little trouble with journeyman fighter Johnny Stef (New York), 146½. During the first four rounds Stef managed to hold his own while Gray was warming up to the job on hand. In the fifth Gray opened up and dropped his opponent for the eight count. Firing at will in the sixth round with no retaliation from Stef, referee Jack Berry stepped in and halted the bout in favour of Gray at the 1:43 mark.

Former Canadian lightweight champion and local boxer Al Ford, 134½, bought loud applause from the fans with a fine exhibition of boxing to win a ten round decision over Bobby Hughes (Toronto), 139. Using his experience and a fast left hand, Ford had Hughes' number from the start, and in taking the edge in perhaps eight of the ten rounds, Ford's left hand had Hughes' head popping back and forth keeping time with the ludicrous tassles that adorn the pants and boots of Hughes.

Fighting for the first time in almost three years before a hometown crowd, Ford left nothing to chance. He had trained well, and the fans liked what they saw. Two of the officials called it 49-45, 48-46 for Ford, the third, away off base, had it tabbed at 48-48.

Hughes is an obnoxious character with nothing going for him but a big mouth. His ring attire is weird and his robe bears the inscription "Bobby Hughes, Greatest Boxing Champion of All Time." Nobody is really quite sure of what title this transplant from Cleveland ever held.

Canadian light heavyweight champion Gary Summerhays (Brantford), on route to Melbourne, Australia, to meet Tony Mundine in a Commonwealth championship bout, stopped off in Edmonton to fight Bob Smith (New York), 178½. Over ten rounds Summerhays, 174½, took no unnecessary chances with Smith and was content to work out the distance and have the official scorecards read 47-43, 47-44 and 47-45 in his favour.

In a heavyweight bout Bob Stallings (New York), 232, needed less than nine minutes to knockout hog-fat Hoss Geisler (Toronto), 263. A booming right hand shot to the head decked the Toronto dreadnaught for an eight count, two more shots in the same place and Geisler was counted out at 2:57 of the third round.

In a good eight round opening middleweight bout Joe Henry (Toronto) outlasted Gary Broughton (Bratford) to cop a unanimous decision with the officials cards calling it 38-36, 40-36, and 39-35. Broughton has always been a pleasing fighter both in Canada and the U.S.A. but he is fast approaching the time when he should give serious thought to hanging up the gloves.

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THE BRITISH ISLES

By RON OLVER

HOPE KO's UNGARO

EBU light middle champ Maurice Hope, Britain.

Royal Albert Hall, London—European light-middleweight champion Maurice Hope kayoed Vincenzo Ungaro of Italy in the fifth round yet was booed by a section of the crowd. Both were inside 157. This was a non-title affair which Hope had taken at short notice.

In that dramatic fifth round Hope landed two body punches, and was given a severe censure on the second occasion for hitting low. Then came the third body punch, a left hook, and down went the Italian, holding his groin, and apparently in utter agony. Referee Mike Jacobs decided the punch was legitimate, and counted the Italian out. This brought forth boos from those who thought the punch was low, and it was a great pity that the fight ended in this manner. Hope wasn't as sharp as usual, but was still too classy for his opponent, who seemed to want to make the most of the incident.

Afterwards Hope denied that the final punch was low, adding that it would have been silly to do so after having been warned.

Hope's manager, Terry Lawless, said that whether it was low or not it didn't seem particularly hard, and that the Itlian over-reated. Terry added that he thought Britain should adopt the American "no-foul" rule, so that Ungaro would have been given time to recover, after which the fight would have continued.

British light middleweight champion Jimmy Batten, 150¾, beat substitute American Clarence Howard, 150, the bout being stopped in the fourth when Howard was no longer punching back. Howard made it plain from the start that he wanted to survive, and in spite of his tactics Batten found little difficulty in gradually wearing him down by his variety of punches, especially his body shots. Not too much opposition, but Batten did what he had to do well.

Jimmy Flint, Wapping, 126¾, easily outscored American Danny Tratzinski, 126, over eight by 80-72, winning every round. Flint who is Southern Area champion, was far too good, but it was an untidy contest, with verbal exchanges and claims on both sides for low blows. The American was plucky enough, and finished with his left eye closed. Flint could well have won more conclusively had he not reopened a cut on his right hand that later required six stitches.

John Feeney, Hartlepool, 119¼, made his first outing in London a successful one, beating George Sutton, Cardiff, 120, who was retired by his corner at the end of the sixth round. It was Feeney's sixth win in as many fights, and showed a lot of skill against a good-class opponent. John really turned it on in the fifth and sixth, and with Sutton taking punishment and bleeding from the nose, his retirement was a logical move.

Tony Poole, Northampton, 152¼, beat Dave Proud, 151½, the referee stopping the bout in the eleventh round. By then Proud had both eyes swollen, and indeed his cornermen signalled to the official that they wanted it stopped.

This victory not only meant that Poole kept his Southern Area light-middleweight title, but he also earned another shot at the British crown. In his first attempt he was beaten by Maurice Hope, losing on a cut after twelve rounds. This time he will oppose champion Jimmy Batten, who is Hope's stablemate.

It was Proud's 27th contest, of which he has won 25 and drawn the others.

It was a fascinating bout. Proud started at a fast pace, and cracked home a couple of hard right hands in the opening session. Poole took them well, then got his left jab into play, and it was this that won him the fight.

When Poole switched to the body in the eighth round, the writing was on the wall for Proud, and his mentors did the right thing in intimating to the referee that they wanted it stopped.

Stan McDermott, Basildon, 220, beat veteran Guinea Roger, Harlesden, 189½, the bout being stopped in the second after the latter had been down twice.

Rocky Beaumont, Hull, 135, kayoed Tony Zeni, Highgate, 134½, in two rounds. Zeni had no answer to his opponent's dynamic punching.

▲**National Sporting Club, London**—Willie Booth, Glasgow, 138, outpointed Billy Vivian, Nerthyr, 138, over eight by 78-77, and reversed the former's only defeat. Scottish lightweight champion Booth built up a solid lead, and although Vivian improved as the fight progressed and put in a strong finish it wasn't quite enough.

Kevin Docherty, West Ham, 131, outscored Kenny Matthews, West Ham, 130, by 78-77 over eight, but some fans felt the latter had done enough to earn at least a share.

Dave McCabe, Glasgow, 137, outpointed Billy Jeram, Bermondsey, 137¼, over six by 58-57. Southpaw McCabe jabbed his way to a narrow victory.

Ceri Collins, Merthyr, 138, outscored Eric Wood, Doncaster, 137, by 59-56 over six. The former's strong finish clinched it.

▲**Manor Place Baths, London** — Isaac Hussein, Reading, 206¾, beat Kris Smith, 232¾, who was disqualified in the third for persistent butting. He had been warned for infringements on several previous occasions.

Smith attempted to use his superior weight to advantage, but all too often his head caught Hussein, and Kris was also warned for kidney punching.

Bobby Mays, Islington, 152¾, outscored Mick Minter, Crawley 154¾, over eight by 77-76. A good one for the fans, a fast pace throughout, and little between them at any stage. Minter incurred warnings for misue of the head, which may have made the difference between defeat and at least a draw.

In a fair old punch-up H.H. Thompson, Catford, 160, kayoed Salvo Nuciforo, Falmouth, 158, in three. The latter tried had to beat the count, but was adjudged not to have done so. Both had their moments, and Thompson was halfway through the ropes in the second, only to get back and eventually shatter his opponent's defences. It was Nuciforo's first defeat.

Debutant Tony Kavanagh, Birmingham, 150, outpointed Andy Braidwood, Peckham, 148¾, over six by 58-57. Tony's win was all the more meritorious because he came in as a substitute against an hitherto unbeaten opponent.

Not everyone agreed with the verdict, but Braidwood was floored right on the final bell. In any other round the count would have continued.

Martin Crane, Catford, 134, got off the canvas three times to outpoint Gerry Howland, Portsmouth, 133¾, by 38-37 over six.

▲**Arden Sporting Club, Birmingham** — Scottish lightweight champion Willie Booth, Airdrie, 134½, was held to a draw by Jeff Pritchard, Merthyr, 130½, over eight, and it looked a fair result. Booth was on top in the opening rounds. Pritchard staging a fine rally in the second half of the bout.

Paul Shutt, Leicester, 162, kayoed H. H. Thompson, Catford, 160, in two after decking him twice in the first round.

George Peacock, Glasgow, 140½, outpointed Sylvester Gordon, Peckham, 140, over six by 58-57. A bit of a maul.

Nigel Thomas, Llanelli, 138, kayoed Marty Crane, Catford, 134, in the opening session after 1 min. Crane had previously been decked after 40 seconds.

▲**Hove Town Hall** — In an eliminator for the Southern Area light-middleweight title Terry Knight, Brighton, 153, beat Colin Ward, Northampton, 154, the bout being stopped in the second after Ward had taken five counts in that round. It was the first time Colin had been stopped in 13 bouts, and Knight punched impressively.

Kendrick Edwards, Luton, 152, easily outscored Mick Hampston, Deptford, 152, by 60-56, not losing a round. Hampston was down twice.

Johnny Elliott, Bournemouth, 147, had to pull out all the stops to outpoint Mike Copp, Swansea, 151½, over six by 58-57. In the third Copp seemed to be half pushed through the ropes, but was back at the count of eight. He then rallied well to fully extend his opponent.

Shaun Shalcraft, Crawley, 174, easily outpointed Tony Burnett, Merthyr, 168, by 60-55 over six, making an impressive debut.

Another debutant, Paul Shipp, Portsmouth, 134, also won on points, the scoreline in his six-rounder against Gary Collins, Tottenham, being 60-57. Shipp is an attractive boxer to watch.

▲**Great International Sporting Club, Nottingham** — Clinton McKenzie, Crowdon, 139, won his final eliminator for the British light-welter title by outpointing Chris Davies, Cardiff, 139¾, over twelve by 117-114.

The taller McKenzie controlled this bout superbly, and the points margin could have been a trifle wider.

McKenzie now goes on to meet champion Colin Powers, who kayoed him in two rounds when they met last year.

Eric Wood, Doncaster, 135, outscored Lee Graham, Finchley, 129¼, over eight by 79-75. Wood took full advantage of his superior weight, and Graham tired in the later stages. Nevertheless the margin seemed smaller.

Ian Pickersgill, Doncaster, 144¼, outscored Peter Snowsall, Burnt Oak, 137, by 59-56 over six, which looked a good victory, but he was unwisely tempted to fight in close, which suited his opponent.

Steve Bond, Nottingham, 159, outpointed Mohammed Akram, Leeds, 157, over four by 40-37, not losing a round. Plenty of action from these two novices.

▲**Wimbledon Town Hall** — Brian Huckfield, Warley, 197, kayoed Kris Smith, 232¾, in five rounds, and the latter afterwards announced his retirement from the ring. Huckfield was ahead throughout, and got better as the fight progressed. Smith at times looked dangerous with some hefty clouts to the body, but didn't take full advantage of his superior weight.

Austin Okoye, Streatham, 198, also won by a knockout, disposing of Neil Malpass, 216½, in four. A right hand did the trick.

Tom Collins, Leeds, 175, beat Clint Jones, Crawley, 170, the bout being stopped in the third after Jones had been decked twice.

Debutant John Cooper, Mitcham, 127, made a good start by outpointing Steve Henderson, Aylesbury, 128½, over six by 60-56.

Lance Bantleman, Hayes, 127½, narrowly outscored Tony Whitmore, Morden, 127, over six by 60-59.

Martin Nee, Paddington, 205, outpointed Alan Ward, Doncaster, 201¼, over four by 40-38. Nee had his man down in the final session, and didn't lose a round.

▲**Afan Lido, Aberavon** — British bantam champ Johnny Owen, 120½, beat Alan Oag, Edinburgh, 125, the bout being stopped in the eighth after Oag had been down in the sixth and was under considerable pressure.

It was Owen's first bout as national champion, and although conceding weight he was always in command against a plucky opponent.

It was an overweight non-title affair.

Colin Jones, Gorseinon, 145½, kayoed Alan Reid, Edinburgh, 154¼, in 30 seconds of the first round. A left to the jaw did the trick.

Debutant Colin Lawson, Cardigan, 173, "kayoed" veteran Malcolm Worthington, Crewe, 176, in two rounds. A left hand caught the latter on the face, and in falling Malcolm injured his right ankle.

The injury prevented him for beating the count, and his cornermen had difficulty afterwards in getting his boot off before lifting him back to the dressing-room.

▲**Wolverhampton Civic Hall** — Tony Sibson, Leicester, 161½, kayoed Scottish light-middleweight champion John Smith, Glasgow, 156, in the fifth after decking him for seven. A fine performance by young Sibson. He looks champion material.

Alan Robertson, Newcastle, 128, defeated Pat Cowdell, Warley, 128, who had to retire at the end of the second with a cut left eyebrow. It was Cowdell's first defeat, and a return seems logical.

Mick Bell, Leicester, 140, kayoed Granville Allen, Wednesbury, 140, in the eighth and final round. When they met before Allen gained a disputed points decision. A right to the jaw did the trick after a hard fight.

Paul Chance, Wednesbury, 127½, retained his unbeaten certificate by outpointing Gerry O'Neill, Glasgow, 124, over six by the narrow margin of 60-59.

Steve Early, Coventry, 138, beat Selvin Bell, Manchester, 134, the referee intervening in the second.

Roger Barlow, Coventry, 174, outscored Joe Jackson, Coventry, 171, over eight by 78-75. A bit of a maul, both being warned for holding. Jackson did his cause no good by clowning, and was also warned for misue of the head and punching on the back of the neck.

▲Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club, Bradford — Substitute Brian Gregory, Doncaster, 155, outpointed Charlie Malarky, Glasgow, 155, by 77-76 over eight.

It was so close that not everyone agreed with the verdict, and it was also a good scrap to watch with a tremendous final round.

Central Area heavyweight champion Peter Freeman, Bolton, 209, defeated Sean Reilly, Manchester, 213, the bout being stopped in the fourth because of a cut on the latter's right eyelid. Untidy contest, both being warned for careless use of the head. Freeman had been inactive for a long period.

Billy Nixon, Bradford, 148, stopped Bob Lewis, Stoke, 147, the referee intervening five seconds from the end of their scheduled six-rounder after Lewis had been decked.

Debutant Eddie Glencross, Glasgow, 112, cousin of the former British featerweight champ Tommy Glencross, comfortably outpointed George Bailey, Bradford, 111, over four by 39-37.

Ken Jones, Gorseinon, 161½, outscored Billy Lauder, Bonnyrigg, 154½, by 59-57 over six. An excellent scrap, and Lauder's first defeat in five bouts.

Jeff Pritchard, New Tredegar, 134½, beat Benny Purdy, Belfast, 134½, the referee intervening in the fourth. Pritchard took a few right hands before getting his range.

Billy Vivian, Merthyr, 137, outpointed southpaw Sugar Ray Heaney, Lurgan, 136, over eight by 78-75. Not a fight that will be remembered for long.

▲Midlands Sporting Club, Solihull — With just ten seconds of their eight-rounder to go Eddie Smith, Manchester, 163, kayoed Roy Gumbs, Tottenham, 164, a dramatic ending to a contest that could have gone either way. The 18-year-old Smith produced a left to the body, then a right, and it was all over.

Steve Fenton, Leicester, 175, drew with Danny McLaughlin, Manchester, 177¼, over eight. It afterwards transpired that Fenton had broken a bone in his right hand in the second round.

Carl Bailey, Manchester, 147, beat Bob Bravado, Ghana, 148¼, the referee intervening in the seventh with the latter's mouth cut. Bravado had arrived in Britain only two days before the fight.

Steve Early, Coventry, 137¾, easily outscored Najib Daho, Manchester, 138, over six by 60-56, not losing a round.

Prince Rodney, Huddersfield, 150, outpointed Billy Ahearne, Manchester, 149, over eight, the former cutting out the work and punching more accurately.

▲National Sporting Club, London — Gerry Duffy, Dunfermline, 128, beat Lee Graham, Finchley, 128, the bout being stopped in the second after the latter had been down twice.

Karl Canwell, Stoke Newington, 179¾, defeated Theo Josephs, Halifax, 178, the referee intervening in the fourth when Josephs sustained a cut over the left eye.

Debutant Robbie Robinson, Liverpool, easily outpointed Tony Whitmore, Norwich, 128, over six by 60-54, winning every round.

Peter Snowshall, Burnt Oak, 145, convincingly outscored Nigel Thomas, Llanelli, 145, by 40-38 over four fast rounds.

▲Seymour Hall, London — Making a comeback after 16 months of inactivity, former British light-welter champ Joey Singleton, 137, beat former British featherweight champion Tommy Glencross, 137¾, who retired at the end of the fourth with an injured left hand. At that point Glencross was well behind on points, and it was afterwards revealed that Glencross had retired from the ring. He said he would have done so whatever the result.

Glencross was decked in the third, and Singleton jabbed and hooked with authority. With a couple more fights under his belt, Joey should soon be back among the top men again.

In a battle of Area champions, Peter Neal, Abingdon, 147½, comfortably outpointed Terry Petersen, Leeds, 149, by 80-75 over eight, not losing a round.

Southern Area title-holder Neal turned in a storming finish to clinch an impressive performance. Central Area champion Petersen was snaken on one or two occasions by body punches in the seventh and eighth, when he tired, but was always willing to make a fight of it.

Ray Cattouse, Balham, 136, beat Southern Area champion Tommy Dunn, 137, who was disqualified in the third for persistent holding after several warnings.

Steve Lewin, Morden, beat Joe Hannaford, Liverpool, the referee intervening in the third with Joe under pressure but protesting at the stoppage.

Sylvester Gordon, 143½, outpointed Cookie Roomes, South Norwood, 142, over six by 60-58, not losing a round.

▲North Staffs Sporting Club, Stoke — After decking his man in the first round, Pat Brogan, Crewe, 162, had to settle for an eight-rounds points win over Tim McHugh, Birkenhead, 156, scoreline 78-75. Brogan was handicapped by an injury to his right hand when flooring his opponent, and McHugh claimed he had twisted his right ankle in going down.

Theo Josephs, Huddersfield, 179, outscored George Gray, Aberdeen, 182, over eight by 79-75. The referee had to call for more action on two occasions.

Debutant Jimmy Brown, Liverpool, 127, beat Steve Enright, Hallifax, 126, the bout being stopped in the third, but the latter didn't seem in any difficulty and strongly protested.

Steve Goodwin, Bootle, 153, gained a six-round points win over Steve Hopkin, Ely, the narrow margin being 58-57. Goodwin's fifth in a row, Hopkin's first defeat.

Dave Taylor, Liverpool, 140, drew with John Kelly, Rotherham, 139, over eight. In their two previous meetings each had won one.

▲St. Andrews Sporting Club, Glasgow — Howard Mills, Middlebrough, 164, produced on of the first upsets of 1978 in stopping highly-thought-of Eddie Burke, 161½, the referee intervening in the seventh after Burke had been decked three times.

In the seventh, Mills got in with a left and a right that had his opponent wobbling, and before he hit the canvas Mills had landed a few more. Eddie was up at seven, his left eye cut and swollen, whereupon the bout was stopped. Burke was taken to the hospital with a suspected broken jaw. He was also concussed, and detained for treatment.

Horace McKenzie, Cardiff, 144, comfortably outscored Tommy Davitt, Dublin, 144, over eight by 79-77. Plenty of action, with the cleaner punching coming from the winner against an aggressive opponent.

Dave McCabe, Gartcosh, 138¼, made it seven in a row by outpointing Dai Davies, Swansea, 130, over six by 59-55. Davies was down twice.

Robbie Robinson, Liverpool, 129, narrowly outscored Gerry O'Neill, Glasgow, 124½, by 59-58 over six. The aggression came from O'Neill, and although Robinson countered effectively throughout he tired in the closing stages. The issue being in doubt until the end.

▲Winter Gardens, Cleethorpes — Central Area light-heavy champ Alex Penarski, Horwich, 177, outpointed former British champion Tim Wood, Leicester, 178¾, by the narrowest margin of 79-78 over eight.

Wood was decked by a right hand in the third, but unwisely rose immediately, only for Penarski to put him under pressure for the rest of the round, and the bell must have come as a welcome relief.

After this setback Wood got back into the fight with some good jabbing and hooking, but Penarski possessed the heavier dig. It was Wood's fourth successive defeat.

Prince Rodney, Huddersfield, 151½, boxed well to stop Dave Moore, Grimsby, 152, the referee intervening in the sixth, after Moore had taken several punches then turned his back on his opponent.

It was discovered that Moore's jaw had been broken.

Billy Ahearne, Manchester, 149½, kayoed Tommy Joyce, Doncaster, 149½, in two. Joyce was down twice in the opening round.

Roy Gregory, Normanton, easily outscored Geoff Raynor, Grimsby, over four by 40-36 in a light-heavy bout, winning every round.

COMMONWEALTH RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHT

Championship
Vacant
1. Billy Aird (E)
2. John L. Gardner (E)
3. George Chuvalo (C)
4. Denton Ruddock (J)
5. Isaac Hussien (E)
6. Ngozika Ekwelum (N)
7. Les Stevens (E)
8. Terry Mintus (E)
9. Tony Moore (J)
10. Fonomanu Sekona (T)

LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT

Champion
Gary Summerhays (C)
1. John Conteh (E)
2. Tony Mundine (A)
3. Bunny Johnson (J)
4. Mustapha Wassaja (Ug)
5. Rab Affleck (E)
6. Victor Attivor (G)
7. Wendell Joseph (Tr)
8. Lat Darasin (N)
9. Pat McCann (E)
10. Garfield McEwan (E)

MIDDLEWEIGHT

Champion
Monty Beham (NZ)
1. Alan Minter (E)
2. Kevin Finnegan (E)
3. Fernand Marcotte (C)
4. Bunny Sterling (J)
5. Jean-Claud Leclair (C)
6. Julius Luipa (Zam)
7. Frankie Lucas (St. Vin.)
8. Daniel Levesque (C)
9. Al Korovou (A)
10. Scorpion Ofosu (G)

LIGHT-MIDDLEWEIGHT

Champion
Maurice Hope (Ant.)
1. Rocky Mattioli (A)
2. Ayub Kalule (Eg)
3. Elisha Obed (Bah)
4. Jimmy Batten (E)
5. Wally Carr (A)
6. Johnny Layton (A)
7. Neil Pattel (A)
8. Tony Poole (E)
9. Larry Paul (E)
10. Torcano Marcos (Fiji)

WELTERWEIGHT

Champion
Clyde Gray (C)
1. Dave Green (E)
2. Eddie Marcelle (Tr)
3. John H. Stracey (E)
4. Ali Afakasi (NZ)
5. Vernon Lewis (Guy.)
6. Henry Rhiney (J)
7. Steve Dennis (A)
8. Sakaraia Ve (Fiji)
9. Andy Broome (A)
10. Billy Waith (W)

LIGHT-WELTERWEIGHT

Champion
Baby Cassius Austin (A)
1. Hector Thompson (A)
2. Tony Aba (Papua)
3. Mark Abai (Papua)
4. Martin Beni (Papua)
5. Colin Powers (E)
6. Des Morrison (J)
7. Clinton McKenzie (E)
8. Chris Davies (W)
9. Ross Eadie (A)
10. Chris Walker (E)

LIGHTWEIGHT

Champion
Len Blackmore (Guy.)
1. Jim Watt (S)
2. Charlie Nash (I)
3. Barry Michael (A)
4. Billy Mulholland (A)
5. Cleveland Denny (C)
6. Johnny Claydon (E)
7. Claude Noel (Tr)
8. Fitzroy Giuseppe (Belize)
9. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (U)
10. Hogan Jimoh (N)

FEATHERWEIGHT

Champion
Eddie Ndukwu (N)
1. David Kotey (G)
2. Alan Richardson (E)
3. Brian Roberts (A)
4. Les Pickett (W)
5. Dave Needham (E)
6. Jimmy Flint (E)
7. Paddy Graham (I)
8. Jackie McGill (S)
9. Bingo Crooks (J)
10. Pat Cowdell (E)

BANTAMWEIGHT

Champion
Sulley Shittu (G)
1. Paul Ferreri (A)
2. Johnny Owen (W)
3. Wayne Evans (E)
4. Gary Davidson (E)
5. David Austin (A)
6. John Feeney (E)
7. George Sutton (W)
8. Wally Angliss (E)
9. John Hipwell (A)
10. John Kellie (S)

FLYWEIGHT

Champion
Patrick Mambwe (Zam)
1. Steve Bell (A)
2. Charlie Magri (E)
3. Charlie Brown (A)
4. Dave Smith (E)
5. Neil McLaughlin (I)
6. Sam Eke (N)

John Aba (Papua) is the Junior lightweight champion. Billy Moeller (A) and Kayinola Armah (N) are official contenders.

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WORLD-WIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHT
Stan Ward beat Mike Weaver, 12
(California State Heavyweight Title)
Al Benjamin beat Allan Brooks, 4 (Disq)
Calvin Cross stopped Leroy Cook, 1
Young Joe Louis halted Juan DeLa Garza, 2
George Mostardini kayoed Dwight Sims, 1
Walter Moore beat Fernando Montes, 10
Bob Stallings knocked out Hoss Geisler, 3
Leon Spinks beat Muhammad Ali, 15
(World Heavyweight Title)
John Abrahams was stopped by Robert Williams, 1
Gerry Cooney knocked out Jimmy Sykes, 1
Guy Casale beat Joe Maye, 6
Dante Cane halted Jerry Tompkins, 6
Alfio Righetti beat Tony Moore, 10
Tom Franco Thomas stopped Baker Tinsley, 3
Terry Mims kayoed Vic Brown, 1
Eddie Neilson stopped Paul Tucker, 2
Neil Malpass halted Sean Reilly, 3
Rocky Bentley beat Clayman Parker, 8

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Alvaro "Yagui" Lopez kayoed Fabian Falconette, 2
Alvaro Lopez halted Gene Miera, 2
Sal Sanfillipo halted Howard Burnstein, 3
Lou Benson halted Dave Dittmar, 1
Dale Grant beat Johnny Wilburn, 10
Gary Summerhays beat Bob Smith, 10
Jesse Burnett lost to Eddie Gregory, 10
Mike Spinks beat Tom Bethea, 8
Biff Cline halted Dave Dittmar, 6
John Wilburn stopped Joe Klutz, 2 then halted Ernie Witcher, 1
Pat Cuillo halted Sam Long, 3
Eddie Fenton beat Sid Falconer, 8
Bobby Lloyd stopped Marlan Lewis, 11
Frankie Suarez halted Ernie Burns, 8
Irving Hines beat Willie Taylor, 6
Tommy Brooks stopped Ed Smith, 2

MIDDLEWEIGHT
Ayub Kalule halted Bonifacio Avila, 3
Rafael Rodriquez beat Pat O'Connor, 10
Robby Epps beat Andre Beard, 10
Rusty Rosenberger stopped Ray Garcia, 1
Pat Murphy stopped Alex Lofton, 2
Keith Broom beat Nate Dixon, 6 then beat Tyrone Freeman, 6
Bobby Howard beat C.J. Brown, 6
Ray Seales stopped Emmitt Atlas, 2
Tommy Howard whipped Larry Smith, 10
Joe Henry beat Gary Broughton, 8
David Love kayoed Edgar Wallace
Alan Minter KO'd Sandy Torres, 5
Tony Chaverini KO'd Marcelo Quinones, 3
Gil Rosario beat Ray Villanueva, 6
Mario Bernard beat Ernie Johnson, 6
Jesus Castro halted Luis Arias, 9
Willie Classen stopped Rocky Burgess, 1
Germano Valsecchi stopped Trento Facchiocchi, 3
Sandro Mazzinghi beat Gianni Mingardi, 8
Johnny Johnson knocked out Ted Hamilton, 5
Paul Shutt beat George Salmon, 8
Mick Mills beat Owen Robinson, 8
Tommy Ellis defeated Jody Parker, 6
Dennis Whitfield beat Ron Rover, 4
Steve Gregory whipped Larry McCall, 6
Rodney Couple defeated Angel Ortiz, 6

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHT
Frankie Kolovart beat Billy Goodwin, 10
Mike Morgan halted Larry Puchta, 3
Billy Wareham stopped Richie Jackson, 3
Ruben Lopez beat O'Dell Leonard, 6
Jimmy Batten kayoed Clarence Howard, 5
Melvin Rodgers Dennis stopped Roy C. Jones, 8
Loyisa Mtya stopped Morgan Moledi, 10
Livinstone Luphondo beat Christopher Thys, 6
Joseph Hali halted Charlie Weir, 5
Dave Proud beat Tiger Quaye, 8
Mario Guillotto beat Joey Jack, 8
Carl Bailey beat Joe Hannaford, 8
Adoni Amana halted Aroldo Olivares, 7
Jose Luis Pachecho beat Marion Molina, 8

WELTERWEIGHT
Alois Carmeliet beat Justice Ortiz, 10
Jorgen Hansen stopped Juan Battista, 2
Victor Abraham beat Rudy Barro, 10
Robert Mann halted Bruce Whittle, 2
Razor Rosenberger stopped Donnell McGrea, 3
Johnny Gant beat Victor "Taco" Perez, 10
Pete Seward beat Andra Love, 8
Clyde Gray stopped Johnny Stef, 6
James Abrahams beat Mzwandile Mquanto, 4
Lulameli Calieni halted Godon Adams, 1
Dumile Siko beat Ephraim Mabena, 6
Harold Volbrecht won over Jack Jim, 6
Morris Mohloai beat Phillip Hlope, 12
Johnny Gant whipped Freddie Boynton, 10
Roland Pryor beat Ray Fields, 6
Odell Leonard beat Julio Garcia, 6
Bruno Arcari stopped Nelson Gomes, 7
Luciano De Luca beat Luiz Ribeiro, 8
Mario Guillotto whipped Joey Mack, 8
Giampiero Bertuzzi halted Luigi Dal Santo, 3
Anthony Daniels stopped Al Franklin, 2
Bobby Haymon halted Larry McCall, 7
Peter Neal beat Johnny Pincham, 10
Mickey Morse whipped Roy Commosioung, 8
Mike Wyant halted George Fakaris, 6

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Marvin Jenkins whipped Al Franklin, 6
Gino Perez halted James Kolb, 1
Robert Vasquez knocked out Paulino Garcia, 7
Ray Leonard beat Rocky Ramon, 8 also stopped Hector Diaz, 2
Ezzard Charles Adams halted Arturo Cirlos, 3
Fezile Maki whipped Mlungisi Buku, 4
Sizwe Tutu defeated Tamie Spampool, 4
Johnny Turner stopped Rocky Craney, 2
Francesco Gallo beat Luciano Navarra, 8
Saensak Muangsurin kayoed Joe Kimpuani, 14
(WBC Jr. Welterweight Title)
Cranville Allen beat Tommy Glencross, 8

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Sammy Ayala halted Victor Villanueva, 7
Benny Marquez beat Raton Montes, 8
Termite Watkins beat Bennie Marquez, 10
Al Ford beat Bobby Hughes, 10
Anthony Morodi beat Bowell Zono, 10
Bramley Whiteboy whipped Simon Dhladhla, 8
Manny De Jesus lost to Leslie Baker, 4
Gregory Schmidt stopped Gordon Adams, 4
Louis Hubels stopped Mike Leonard, 1
Govanni Vitillo beat Gregorio Ciancaglione, 8
Hilbert Stevenson stopped Randell Stephens, 1
Marvin Ladson halted Will Rankin, 4
Hugo Carrizo and Rodolfo Sanchez, drew 8
Giovanni Carrino beat Ben Jelassie, 6
Joan Van Torre defeated Rocco Frasca, 8
Roberto Duran kayoed Esteban De Jesus, 12
(World Lightweight Title)

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Petronillo Velasquez beat Carlos Garcia, 6
Reynaldo Zarogoza stopped Ad Zapanta, 1
Angel Ortiz stopped Pablo Nieves, 5
Carlos Serrano beat Ronnie Furlow, 4
Tsietsi Maretloane beat Patrick Kohli, 10
Sipho Mtyeko beat Khaya Tshaka, 4
Gianfranco Lalli and Natale Caredda, drew 8

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Sue Carlson beat Bonnie Prestwood, 4 (WOMEN)
Jose Resendiz beat Eduardo Plata, 6
Fel Clemente beat Miguel Meza, 12
(California State Featherweight Title)
Wilfredo Gomez halted Royal Kobayashi, 3
(WBC Super Bantamweight Title)
Danny Lopez KO'd David Kotey, 6
(WBC Featherweight Title)
Cecil Baatjies whipped Sipho Mange, 6
Samson Majeke won over Sonwabo Soci, 4
Mxolisi Ngqakayi defeated Spokes Wibooi, 4
Bashew Sibaca won over Alex Venter, 4
Julio Guerro beat Ramon Perez, 8
Joe Mayes halted Tony Reed, 3
Lloyd Allen defeated Mike Johnson, 4
George Sutton and Mohmmad Younsi, drew, 8
Wally Angliss beat Mike Pickett, 8
Juan LaPorte stopped Charles Buggs, 3

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Edwin Rivera beat Jimmy Magnifico, 2 (Disq)
Harrison Kiger and Javier Buentello, drew, 6
Guadalupe Pintor halted David Vasquez, 7
Richard Rozelle stopped Wardell Williams, 5
Mxolisi Mpama won over Vincent Ngcobo, 8
Gallito Frias whipped Enrique Matos, 10
Julio Soto Solano stopped Ramoncito Crus, 7
Milcaides Pena and Jose Guerrero, drew, 4
Alfredo Mulas beat Josias M. Da Silava, 8
Teodoro Corallo stopped Jose Cornejo Hernandez, 4
Ralph Berries halted Bean Chavez, 4

FLYWEIGHTS
Phindile Gaika beat Tito Dastile, 6
Monde Mpulampula stopped Joseph Ngidi, 4
Welile Nkosenkulu whipped Mava Malla, 4
Mxolisi Nohenda deafeated Lucas Ncetezo, 4
Franco Udella beat Emilio Pireddu, 15

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VETERAN BOXERS' BEAT

By Harry Warren

CROYDON, a city on the outskirts of London, England, is one of those fabulous places where boxing is considered a major sport. Boxing always played a big part in the sports scene and many of the famous boxers of yesteryear were Croydonites. Former middleweight king of Great Britain and Europe ALBERT FINCH, the only British fighter to beat both DICK and RANDOLPH TURPIN and MARK HART, a fighter who could beat anyone in Great Britain except his neighbor and friend ALBERT FINCH. MARK is now one of Great Britain's most respected referees. His father, MARVIN, a former boxer of high reputation, recently lost the title of the oldest living ex-fighter in Croydon. It happened this way. Croydon's greatest fight manager, TOM FISHER, was writing a book *Boxing Was My Sport*, but he died of a heart attack before the book was published. His widow EDIE, decided it would be published and arranged a special reunion of all Croydon fighters and ex-fighters. Held at the Croydon Conservative Club, it was a most impressive reunion and many fistic luminaries were present. At the affair were the three oldest old-timers: MARVIN HART, FRED RUMSEY and JACK HALL. It was then discovered that FRED RUMSEY was one year older than MARVIN HART! It was a wonderful occasion. LES RIDGE, one of the first fighters to be trained by TOM FISHER 50-years ago, was the Master of Ceremonies. He gave a brilliant account of boxing, boxers, and Croydon's involvement throughout the years. RON PUDNEY, another middleweight, might well have captured the British title, but like HART, found ALBERT FINCH too good. The TOOHEY brothers, KENNY GREEN, and famed timekeeper TOM POWELL, all popular figures, were given a big hand. It saddened this writer to learn of the death of TOM FISHER. He was an astute manager and handled my affairs for over 40-contests in Great Britain. Oh-yes, the book was well received. A few copies still availabie, send $5 post-free to GILBERT ALLNUT, 25 Melrose Ave, Norbury, London.SW16. England. This writer is shown in its pages in a picture with former world champion WILLIE PEP.

It's always bad news to hear of our boxing buddies dying. MORRIE SHERMAN passed away in Detroit, Michigan, and I heard that JACKIE SNYDER passed away in Florida. His body was returned to his birthplace, New York, and members of the International VBA, headed by IRVING SILVERMAN and SOLLY SEEMAN announced the 10-Count at his WAKE.

FRANKIE RYFF and JACKIE LOT/ were honored by SCOOP GALLELLO's Ring 30, of Westchester County. FRANKIE, a contender for the lightweight crown, spent years recovering from a fall down 10 floors of an elevator shaft. He broke every bone in his body. He now looks terrific, thanks, I'm told, to his lovely wife MATILDA who gave him painstaking attention. FRANKIE wrote a book, *God is in my Corner*. Write to FRANKIE at 2055 McGraw Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 10462.

Former great welter contender TONY JANIRO can be found at "Tom and Sal's," 172 St. Nicholas Avenue, The Bronx, N.Y. . . . The former great middleweight PHIL RAFFERTY is the popular bartender at the jet set haven, "P.J. Clarke's," Third Avenue and 55th St, N.Y. . . . A popular bantamweight of the 1920's and 30's, CHARLEY "BUD" DEMPSEY, is the owner and operator of the International Bartenders School, 200 West 24 Street, N.Y.

JACK CASEY, of Sunderland, England, who fought MARCEL THIL of France for the world middleweight crown, also beat TOMMY FARR, who lost a decision to the fabulous Brown Bomber, JOE LOUIS, the world heavyweight champion. CASEY is now a vice-president of the active Sunderland and District Ex-Boxers Association. Headquarters are at 2 Norfolk Street, Sunderland. The group meets every first Sunday, at 11 a.m. TOM SMITH, chairman of the association, is a former fistic great. He fought from bantam to lightweight. His biggest win was against RAY FAMECHON, then the world featherweight champion. This contest was a non-title bout, held at St. James Hall, Newcastle, England, with TOM taking the decision. TOM PARKER, the secretary of the Sunderland Ex-Boxers Association, also has an impressive record. With 127 pro contests, he won 102 and was never knocked out. In a contest with TOMMY WOODS of North Shields, he knocked out TOMMY with 12 seconds being recorded in the first round. (TOM PARKER wonders if this is a record?)

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KIRKMAN ICES ATLAS

By RUGGLES LARSON

▲SEATTLE, WASHINGTON—Boone Kirkman, Renton, Wash., heavyweight, scored a technical knockout of Charles Atlas, 210, Monroe, La., in 2:02 of the fourth round. Kirkman, 209, decked Atlas six times before referee Pat McMurtry stopped the scheduled ten rounder.

In the other half of the double main event, Tacoma's "Sugar" Ray Seales TKO'd Emmett Atlas in 2:43 of the second round. Seales, 161, floored the 157-pound Atlas four times before the bout was halted.

Dale Grant, 175, Tacoma, Wash., won a unanimous ten round decision over Johnny Wilburn, Baltimore, 175. Grant, Seales half-brother, looked impressive in his attempt to gain national recognition. In the fourth scheduled ten rounder on the Global Promotions card, "Irish" Tommy Howard, 160, Seattle, Wash., won a unanimous decision over Larry Smith, 151, Tacoma. Smith is one of the best welterweights in the Pacific Northwest, and giving away nine pounds was a little too much to overcome.

In a six rounder, "Irish" Bobby Howard, 158, Seattle, Wash., won a unanimous decision over C.J. Brown of Springfield, Ore.

The promotion drew 3,200 fans, grossing $27,000.

▲PORTLAND, OREGON—Curtis Ramsey, 137, Portland, traveled to Incline Village, Nev., and dropped a decision to Joe Hernandez of Mexico . . . Steve Moyer and Johnny Sullivan are Portland's best professional prospects.

▲SANDPOINT, IDAHO—Sandpoint's Jeff McCracken, fighting for the U.S. Marines at Camp Lejeune, has represented the U.S. amateur boxing team in two international matches. McCracken split in his two bouts, stopping a Romainian and losing to a Russian.

▲OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON—The Washington State Boxing Commission fined Charles Atlas $750 and suspended him from boxing in this state for failure to put up a good showing against Boone Kirkman in Seattle.

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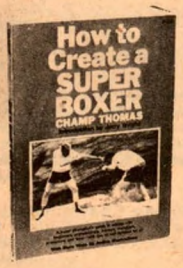

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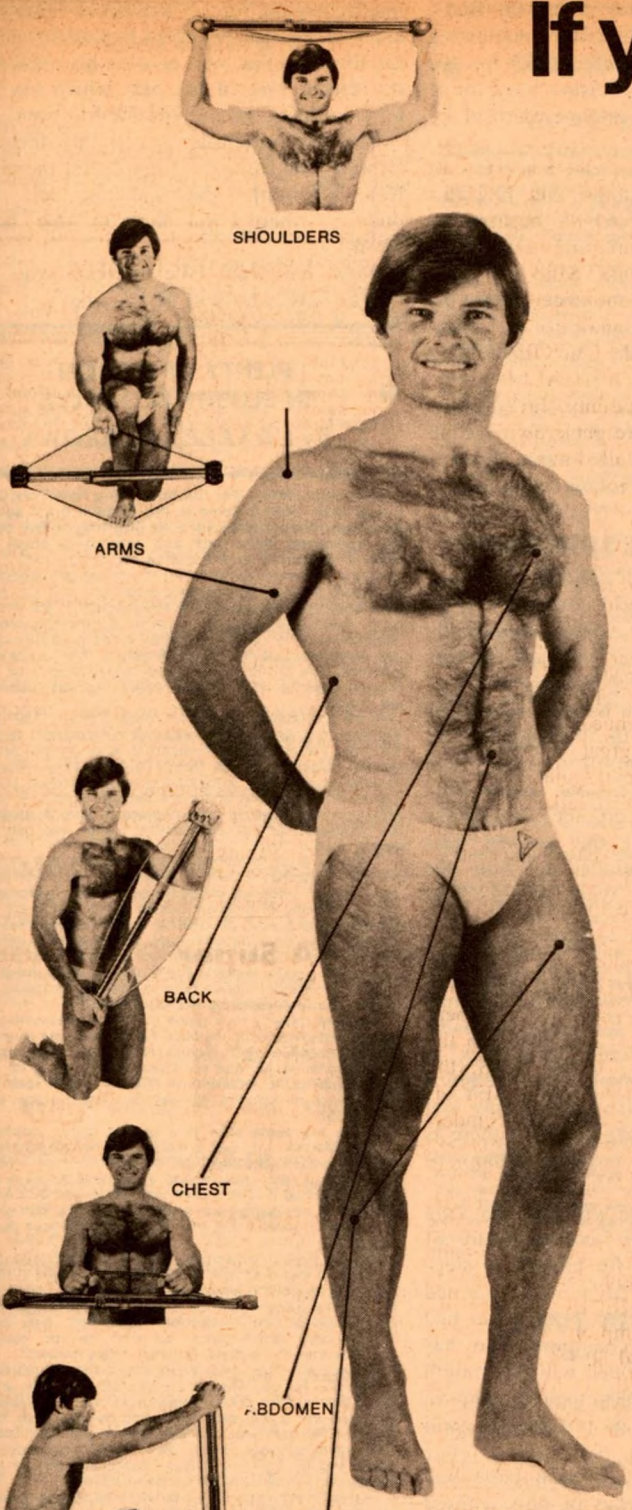

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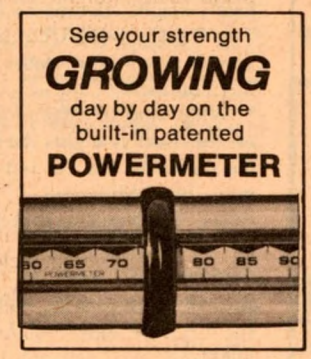

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WHAT NOW, ALI?

(Continued from page 8)

preaching in a local mosque. What, then, will Muhammad do?

Let me rephrase that last question: What *can* Ali do? Muhammad was far from embarrassing - portraying himself in *The Greatest*, his film biography, but it was obvious that he's no movie actor. That he's no stage actor was evidenced by his appearance in *Big Time Buck White*, in which he played nine years ago.

Acting, then, is out. Muhammad could play no one but himself, and that loses something when it's not spontaneous. You just can't rehearse Muhammad Ali. It's like trying to quick freeze a Jewish sponge cake.

A more realistic career would be politics. Ali is young, intelligent (those old Army induction math tests aside), and has, to say the least, a vibrant personality. People listen when he speaks, he has the Black vote, and he is handsome. Let us not forget the women's vote; it is important.

Moreover, putting Ali into politics would benefit the Muslims. They would back him to the limit—probably with money from a source nobody knows about (i.e., most of Muhammad's championship purses). As Ali, and as a Muslim, Muhammad has a set of firm opinions. One of them is that some states be set aside for the American Black people. This would make for interesting rhetoric, but it might make voting for the former champ a difficult decision for a lot of people, even many who are mesmerized by his charisma.

Then again, he very well may stay in boxing. The roles of trainer and manager don't exactly suit him, and it's difficult to imagine Muhammad promoting any fights except his own. He might wind up on a commission. If he does, the hope is that he uses his big mouth to clamor for a federal commission. He'd make an interesting choice to head it.

Politics . . . first federal boxing commissioner . . . the man would seem to have an interesting future. As I said before, Muhammad Ali is a young man—every place but in the ring.

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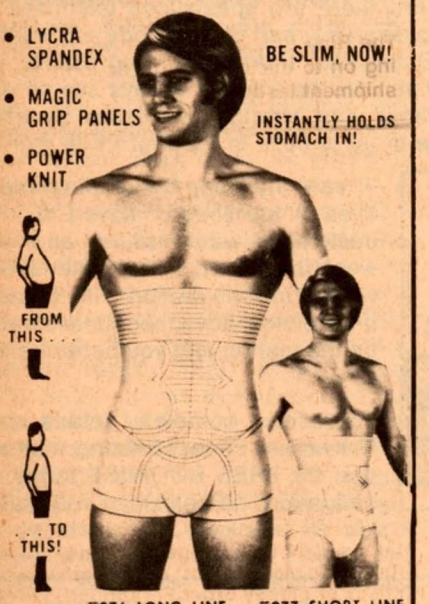

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WHO'S LEON SPINKS?

(Continued from page 7)

worse now that he is world champion, Leon is still a man of kind instincts, especially visible towards his brother Michael, another Montreal medalist who is fighting his way up the pro ranks as a light heavyweight. This protectiveness goes so far that against all advice, Leon posted himself to watch and shout instructions to Mike as he fought Tom "The Bomb" Bethea on the Ali-Spinks undercard, even though the process was clearly taking its emotional toll on the heavyweight challenger who would fight later the same night.

Leon Spinks now has a wife and child, a heavyweight title, and a contract with Top Rank, Inc. for his next six fights. (He had signed with Top Rank for their exclusive promotional rights for three years back in October 1976), assuming he reamins heavyweight champion. It is noteworthy that Top Rank's Bob Arum has said that there is no Ali return bout clause in the provisions of that contract.

What kind of champion will this new king of the heavyweights be? Leon is aware of the chore he has cut out for himself in stepping into Muhammad Ali's well warmed shoes. For the last 14 years, boxing has had an on-again, off-again champion who has dominated the scene as much with his mouth as with his fistic achievements, and in Leon's own words, "I'm just not a good talker."

The combination of television balleyhoo and Ali's flamboyant behavior have caused the boxing public to expect a "personality" in the person of the heavyweight champ, but perhaps this is a good time to remember that the greats we hallow now: Dempsey, Tunney, Louis, Marciano, did not have that flair for promoting themselves that Ali so obviously has. They depended on P.R. men to work up images for the public and the boxers won admiration with their punching power—often not recognized until they had long since ceased to hold their crowns.

If Leon does not mature as a charismatic media figure, he will have to be devastating inside the ring to win the public support and approval he has struggled toward for most of his life, and that will involve his overcoming the darker side of his past which has made him, at times, erratic and hard to train.

The raw potential is certainly there. Ali himself said after the fight, "Let me tell ya, Ken [Norton], the kid is one tough dude . . . there's no dog in that boy, I know."

Now we wait. We've seen who Leon Spinks was: who will he become?

PLENTY OF ACTION IN SLUSHY BROOKLYN

By CHARLES D. BROWN

▲Brooklyn, NYC—For the time being New York City has a new club—Roll-A-Rama in the Benson hurst section of Brooklyn. They just plunk a boxing ring in the center of the converted roller rink and presto!—a small boxing club. A reasonably large house of 400 or so turned out in the middle of a severe slush storm to witness a marathon eight-bout card that ran for three-and-a-half hours. It was all small-time stuff, but there wasn't a dull moment in the whole evening. It was a terrific card, fisticwise, but the atmosphere was too chummy. Not once but THREE times were Brooklyn fighters given blantant hometown decisions over out-of-town opponents. The pro-Brooklyn crowd didn't notice a bit, but the trained observer and reporter knows highway robbery when he sees it.

In the eight-round main event, Willie Classen (159½), a club fighter with a growing reputation for competancy, seized control from the outset and breezed to what on my card was a shutout decision win over Bobby Payton (156½; Philadelphia). Classen had a small string of knockouts rolled up, but Payton proved the gutsy sort and stuck through eight hard rounds of being on the receiving end. Classen is from Brooklyn. He is an unspectacular but workmanlike fighter who gets the job done.

The main sixer contained a heavyweight match starring Guy (Rocky) Casale (199½; Brooklyn), a much-publicized heavyweight because of his resemblance to Marciano and also to the star of a recent boxing movie that is still popular. Casale, who doesn't deserve all the ink, Saint Vitus Danced his way to an easy decision over Johnny Mitchell (195; Paterson, N.J.). Admittedly, Casale had Mitchell in his pocket with his clumsy, hurtful lunges. But that says more about Mitchell than it does about Casale, who is missing his calling. He has a great future in stamping out forest fires.

The first robbery took place in another heavyweight sixer, when ineffectual local boy Mike Tarasawich was given the nod over Richard Roy (208, Sparta, N.J.). Roy, a sparring partner for Muhammad Ali, had no punch but made up for it in ring savvy—using the rope-a-dope and the jab to keep 192½-lb. Tarasawich off balance. No way Roy lost this one, except to civic pride.

It was the same story in a pair of fours. Tommy Molloy (154½, Merrick, L.I.) got a backstab when opponent Dennis Taglianetti (155, Brooklyn) got the win over him. True, Molloy was slow to take charge. And Taglianetti did have a punch when he aimed it right. Molloy was rubberized by a wild left in round two, but came back to drop Taglianetti with a perfectly timed right uppercut. He still lost. He should have decked the judges.

Rawest deal of all went to Richard Garland (135, Philadelphia), who lost over four rounds to Luis Hubela (136, Brooklyn) after outjabbing his clumsy opponent by a good kilometer or so. The judges seemed to have a phobia against calling bouts against the "Headless Horseman" type of fighter tonight—jabs didn't count, as long as you could throw punches from the outfield. So what if they missed?

There were three other bouts where the officials did something right. Rugged Marcos Larios (152, Brooklyn) and undersized Donny Wise (147, Philadelphia) put on a give-and-taker that had the crowd howling. Larios decked Wise for a four count in the first heat and was dishing out early body blows that agonized poor Donny. But Wise came back from the dead and by fight's end was holding his own in toe-to-toe blasts with the far stronger Larios. A thriller.

Razor Rozenberger (sounds like a hamburger chain) had a quickie. The 147 pound Brooklyn native survived an early cuffing around from Russell Hart (145, Philadelphia) and came back to deck Hart twice and finish him off with a left uppercut-chop at 2:23 of the opening round.

And in the best performance of the night, Joey Nieto (124, Bronx), a Golden Gloves champ, took his pro debut fight by a scrappy four round decision over Jose Luis Ortiz (127, Puerto Rico). Nieto kept the pressure on Ortiz, who landed some strong counterpunches but couldn't cope with Nieto's constant pressing. Herb Kronowitz refereed the main bouts. Roll-A-Roma is prepared to run monthly cards. Good.

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PALOMINO VS. SORIMACHI

(Continued from page 14)

to his corner.

The victory raises "King" Carlos Palomino's record to 26-1-3; and drops Sorimachi's to 52-10-4.

After his victorious title defense, Palomino stated: "I've always been a slow starter. But everything always goes according to plan. I start slow so I can maneuver and pick my spots. That's how I get the job done. When I throw a correct punch, I can feel it myself. Sorimachi was a very sneaky fighter, but I was never once in any trouble or danger. I planned for a knockout in the sixth or seventh round. And that's exactly what happened."

Palomino makes a mandatory title defense in June, probably against no. 1 contender Wilfredo Benitez.

A scheduled six-round show opener was short and sweet as "Rumbling Roger" Stafford, 147, ko'd Ronald Turner, 141, at 2 minutes, 47 seconds of the first round.

Another Japanese battler, Akiro "Kong" Saito, 199, of Tokyo, ko'd Mark White, 197, of Los Angeles at 54 seconds of the third round of a planned six-rounder.

White went down once in the first round, survived the entire second, and went down to defeat as the bout was stopped when he hit the canvas in the third round.

Gerald Cooney, the 6'5" heavyweight from New York, maintained his unbeaten record as he stopped Las Vegan Gary Bates in the fourth round of their scheduled six-rounder.

Cooney, being touted as the newest "Great White Hope", raised his record to 10-0, with 9 knockouts, with Saturday's victory.

Cooney is a stablemate of Olympic Champion Howard Davis and top Middleweight Ronnie Harris. All are managed by New York real estate tycoons Mike Jones and Dennis Rappaport of Champions Boxing, Inc.

The moguls are convinced that Cooney will be the next White Heavyweight Champion.

Another heavyweight bout saw Tiger Roy Williams, 238, of Las Vegas, take a unanimous decision over Fili Moala, 244½, of Samoa.

The six round bout was totally without action or interest, as both fighters jabbed ineffectually at each other throughout the bout.

Welterweight Jimmy Jackson, fighting the best bout of his career, managed to knock out opponent Rudy Barro at 3 minutes of the 5th round.

Jackson, fighting out of Los Angeles, has hired a completely new corner, and is showing strength and skills never apparent in his previous bouts.

Jackson was in complete command throughout the bout, sending Barro to the canvas in the second round and again in the fifth round for a final TKO.

U.S. TEAM FACES CUBANS, TAKES DRUBBING

By ARTHUR REMBERT

Two time Olympic heavyweight gold medalist Teofilo Stevenson led a crack Cuban national boxing team to a 8-3 drubbing of a young U.S. squad that had the privilege of taking part in the first boxing event telecast to the U.S. since Fidel Castro came to power almost twenty years ago.

Before Stevenson's split decision victory over Jimmy Clark of Coatsville Penn., took place, other bouts that are worthy of mention are; Pan-American and Olympic Games Jr. Flyweight champion Jorge Hernandez' unanimous decision victory over Felix Castillo of San Antonio, Texas. In a flyweight division lefty Samuel Belford used a good right jab to keep America's Jerome Coffey off balance and more or less one-handed his way to a split decision over the US's representative from Nashville.

Veteran Davey Armstrong survived a standing eight count in the first round to come back and take the play from a very strong Jose Aguilar of Cuba. Armstrong took a lot of shots in the initial round although he never really appeared in danger of going down. An ambidextrous athlete, Armstrong went to his lefthanded stance and started to not only defense Aguilar's tough two fisted attack, but managed to generate some offense himself. By the middle of the third round, although Aguilar had won the first round big, the 1975 Pan-American champion form Puyallup Washington was winning going away.

Perennial American rep. Clinton Jackson of Nashville sealed the US team's last victory with a two round stoppage of Manuel Cordero in a Jr. Middleweight affair. It was even-steven for the first round and a half until Jackson, a lefty, caught Cordero with a right left combo that produced a nasty one inch gash over Manuel's right eye. The free bleeding of the cut prompted a halt of hostilities.

The undercard, as we say here in the United States, was but an appetizer to the long awaited comeback of Olympic heavyweight champion Teo Stevenson who has been on hold since an accident with his stove shelved him last summer.

That Stevenson would pick up some rust during his absence from the ring is understandable although sources say that he was back in training three weeks after the accident. Your reporter, saw no scars on his face or body. The heavyweight encounter which was the last bout on the card had been billed as the long-awaited showdown between teenaged sensation Gregory Page of Louiville, and two-time Olympic gold medalist Stevenson. Page was at home watching the bout as he recovered from the flu and, as things turned out, this must have suited Mr. Stevenson just fine.

Teo was anything but the fighting machine the amateur world has come to know and love. More than that, Stevenson looked very beatable as he shuffled along in a very awkward sort of way trying to trap the quicker Clark on the ropes or in the corners. When he did manage to get Clark where he wanted him, he looked every bit the amateur that he obviously is with wild lefts and defense neglected round house rights that Clark had no trouble avoiding. Indeed, young Page must have been home foaming at the mouth in anticipation of fighting THIS Teo Stevenson who, if was ever ready to be taken, was ready on February 12, 1978.

Make no mistake, Stevenson showed the world that despite his two outstanding gold medal winning victories in consecutive Olympic Games, he is indeed human, and a human amateur at that. If Teo is to make good on his boast of becoming the first heavyweight to win three consecutive Olympic gold medals, he will have to deal not only with the Vysotsky's and the Clark's and Page's, but he'll have to find a way to get past two very promising heavyweights in his own native Cuba. Fidel Cesar Oquendo who is touted as the new Stevenson, and Angel Milan who owns a victory over Page, are not to be taken lightly. Moscow is two full years away. Use them wisely, Teo.

LOVE IS BAD NEWS

(Continued from page 24)

superior boxing ability, as well as his overall ring experience, forced "Bad News," not only to taste defeat for the first time as a professional, but also to be knocked out for the first time as well.

Wallace saw his record drop to 16-1 with 11 kayos, while Love, who scored a spectacular upset on national television when he stopped Philadelphia's Bobby "Boogaloo" Watts in four rounds in the ill fated United States Championship Tournament, watched his record climb to 27-12 with 11 stoppages to his credit.

Wallace, who has victories over Gene Wells, Casey Gacic, Rudy Robles, Rocky Mosely and Tony Gardner, appears to have the ability to bounce back.

Time will tell.

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CONTEH WINS

(Continued from page 22)

certainly brought the best out of John, and it proved a fascinating scrap to watch.

The only criticism that could be levelled against Conteh was that he didn't use his right hand enough, but I suppose we shouldn't expect too much too soon.

The swelling under Conteh's eye was sustained in the first round, and a Cokes right hand produced a cut on it which must have handicapped John.

Conteh showed far more variety in his punching than his opponent, who stuck faithfully to his left jab on the retreat. Conteh, for the most part, didn't waste any punches. He jabbed and hooked with his left, which carried weight, and once or twice Cokes looked in a bit of trouble, particularly at the end of the fifth.

Yet the next three rounds saw Cokes at his best, and he proved an awkward, cagey customer who could bob and weave to avoid his opponent's leads and then counterpunch. But his work was only in spasms, whereas Conteh never stopped coming forward throwing punches.

The cut came in the seventh, which gave Cokes encouragement, but Conteh made no obvious attempt to protect the injury, and in the later stages he concentrated on trying to stop his man.

The last round was a humdinger as Cokes seemed to wilt for the first time, and John tried hard to stop him. Full credit to the American for lasting the distance, and for being the ideal opponent for Conteh in his first fight back.

The ring used was only sixteen feet square, the minimum allowed under British Boxing Board of Control rules. To those who suggested this was to suit Conteh he replied "It might have been me that wanted to hide."

John said that on the whole he was happy with his performance. "The first objective was to win," he said. "I did that.

"The next was to use my time in the ring to the best possible advantage. I think I did that. In a way, I'm glad it went the full ten rounds, as my timing wasn't quite right, especially my right hand.

"But except for the cut, I felt fine. I was very fit. I would like to have stopped him, but under the circumstances I probably gained more benefit not doing so.

"The cut was the worst I have ever had. It started some four years ago with a nick on the same spot against Les Stevens. There was always the chance it might open. But at least it's below the eye, so it should cause no problems.

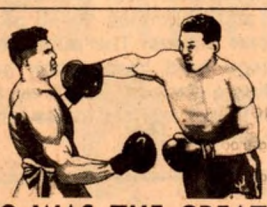
"Because of the cut, I may not be able to have one or two more warm-up fights before meeting champion Mate Parlov for the world title, but either way will suit me fine."

I admire John's enthusiasm, but hope that he will get a chance for at least one more fight before the title shot. Now that he has got into the routine of things again it would seem a pity to take a chance rather than wait a little longer.

There are two or three promoters who would like to stage the title fight in Britain. Venues that have been mentioned include Anfield, (the Liverpool F.C. ground) and Earls Court, London. An offer has been received for a fight in Monte Carlo, and if it did take place at the latter venue it would almost assuredly be televised to Britain.

Conteh's trainer, George Francis, said he was satisfied with John's performance. "Understandably, he wasn't at his absolute best," said George. "He's been out of the ring for a long time. But this fight was just what the doctor ordered—good opposition and ten rounds in the ring. No one could question his fitness. The rest will come."

And the last word from promoter Eddie Thomas. "I was glad to be able to help John on his way to regaining the title. I didn't make any money on the fight, but I didn't lose any either, so can't grumble. It's a good venue, and I enjoyed putting it on."



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EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 5)

into possession of the crown as an underdog in a fight that saw little betting on him, his chances were considered so slim. Spinks took Ali's crown under the same conditions in what was probably a bigger upset.

Much will be written about Ali regardless of his future active participation as a fighter. Of one thing there is no dispute, Ali was one of, if not the best, salesmen that boxing has ever attracted to its bosom. Regardless of how much more he may do in the ring I am sure that when he finally does decide to hang up his gloves he will continue to maintain some connection with boxing. He might make a hell of a Federal Boxing Commissioner if Washington ever decided to give us such leadership.

In closing, allow me to say, as I have before, that regardless of the imprint etched into boxing history by Ali there is always someone waiting in the wings to carry on. This is most specifically true of the heavyweights. In this case the knight on the white horse who rides on stage is Leon Spinks, and only time will tell us what history his fists will dictate.

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

(Continued from page 27)

quez, moves him from eight in the rankings from nine.

Yoko Gushiken, Japan, W.B.A. junior flyweight king, beat Anicento Vargas to retain his crown, and moves from three to two in the flyweight ratings. Estaba falls one spot.

Other major fights of the month: Alexias Arguello halted W.B.C. champion Alfredo Escalera to win the W.B.C. junior lightweight crown; Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico, W.B.C. super-bantam king, retained his title via a three round kayo over Japan's Royal Kobayashi; John Conteh beat Joe Cokes, Dallas, and Ayub Kalule stopped Colombia's Boniface Avila, three, junior middles.

AMATEUR BOXING BEAT

By JOE LEE

Gregory Page, reigning AAU heavyweight champion, gained a unanimous decision over Russian National Champion Igor Ysotsky in an international amateur match and was named Boxer of the Month by the United States Amateur Boxers and Coaches Association.

While Page has never met Teofilo Stephenson of Cuba (illness kept him out of the USA-Cuba tourney) the 18-year-old Louisville, Ky., boxer is considered the No. 1 hopeful of the United States in the heavyweight division for the 1980 Olympics.

Page, the National AAU heavyweight champion, retained his No. 1 ranking among heavyweights for the third consecutive month.

Page's boxing style, much like current champion Muhammad Ali, has captured the attention of the amateur boxing world and there are those who say the Louisville Clouter is more impressive than Ali was at the same stage of his career.

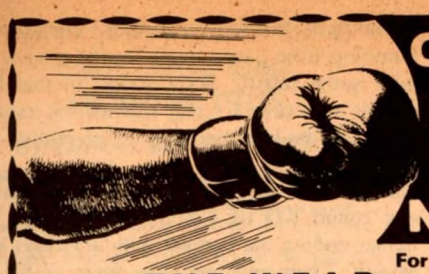
• • •

Roger Leonard, bother of Olympic light welterweight champ, Ray Leonard, decisioned Jerzy Rybicki of Poland at a three-day international tourney held at Warsaw, Pland. The 24-year old Leonard, of the U.S. Air Force, normally a welterweight but moving up to the light middleweight class for this tourney, scored a pair of wins on points to advance to the finals against the heavily favored Rybicki, who had captured a Gold Medal at the 1976 Olympics. Leonard scored a 4-1 win over the Polish boxer.

Another American, lightweight Pat Jefferson, made it to the finals but settled for a Silver medal after dropping a decision to Poland's Stanley Osetowski.

• • •

Jerome Coffee of Nashville, Tenn., reigning AAU flyweight champ, took a Gold Medal in an International tournament in East Berlin, decisioning Zambia's lucky Mutale in the finals. Coffee was the only U.S. boxer to post a win in the four-day event, the 7th Internationale Box-turnier.



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IN OLD NEW ENGLAND

By DON HAMILL

▲Portland Exposition Building — Wilson Bell, 148 Washington and/or Detroit and now billed out of South Portland, atoned for a defeat, reportedly his only one, by scoring an easy eight round decision over Beau Jaynes, 147, Lowell. The fast punching Bell piled up points with both hands as he countered the charging Jaynes.

Bobby Lopes, 190, Manchester, N.H., EDGED Joe (Wildman) Velmure, 248, Lowell, by taking a six round split decision that did not suit the fancy of all those present. Dale Staley, 145½, Washington and a stablemate of Wilson Bell, iced Don Godfrey, 154, Lowell, in the second round of a sixer. In a slated four rounder, Billy Burke, 144, Lowell, stopped Ralph Dumont, 141, Manchester, in the second heat. A pair of amateur bouts opened the show.

Duncan MacDonald, long time chairman of the Maine State Boxing Commission, retired after serving 33 years on that body. He is 87 years old and has spent 70 years connected with boxing, first as a boxer, later referee, and promoter, before being appointed to the boxing commission. His place on the commission has been filled with George Poulos, who has been knockdown time-keeper in recent years.

Emmanuel Aronis' term as chairman of the Massachusetts Boxing Commission has expired. He is reported as top runner for reappointment by Governor George Dukakis. Others aspiring for the job are former commissioner Eddie Urbec, AAU commissioner Bill Menza, and referee Jimmy McCarron.

WALTHAM — I.B.E.W. Hall — Jimmy Farrell, 126, Rockland, scored a clear cut ten round unanimous decision over Daryl Beattie, 130, Cohoes, N.Y. Farrell mixed up his punches well to outscore his lanky foe in each round. Beattie wore his trunks high but Farrell had trouble keeping his body punches above the normal belt line. The show was promoted by Jimmy Farrell, Sr., father of the main eventer.

PeeWee Stokes, 123, New York, cut Melvin Boyington, 131, Newark, down to size and stopped him in the seventh round of their slated eight rounder. Promising Dick Ecklund, 140, Lowell, making his first start in several months belted out Al Cruz, 152, Lowell, in the fifth round of their six spot. (Cruz keeps bobbing up with different names.) Young Charles Cox, 215, Boston, turned pro with a fast knockout in the first round over Bobo Robinson, 198, New York.

Rip Valenti, veteran Boston promoter, had a top flight middleweight bout slated for Boston Garden but ran into all sorts of difficulties. Kevin Finnegan was on the plane at Heathrow ready to embark for Boston to meet Marvin Hagler, when word arrived that Hagler had the flu and the bout was postponed. Finnegan finally did make it to Boston, arriving a few days before the blizzard of '78 that paralyzed Bean Town for over a week, causing another postponement.

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EDDIE FREEMAN

(Continued from page 36)

liams down for a nine count in the second round.

Once again it was back on the KO win streak, beginning on June 25, 1976, with the stoppage of Memphian cutie Simmie Black in three rounds, Lupe Garcia in one heat, and Ray Saenz, a rough tough Mexican opponent, in two rounds.

Freeman claims one of his toughest fights was his ninth, an eight rounder in which he tangled with a cagey battler in one Chico Rodriquez, who possessed all the clever moves, being an elusive target to hit. "He winged shots from everywhere, but I was able to score much more consistently and accurately in winning the decision," states Eddie. Then came two more quick kayoes over Phil Howard in two and Tony Rivera in three rounds, respectively.

Everything was peaches and cream for Eddie until momentary disaster struck in his twelfth fight, an eight round semi-go at the Memphis Holiday Inn Rivermont, when he met Roy Hernandez, a stiff puncher from Los Angeles. Freeman was doing just great as he had Hernandez down three times in the first, second and third rounds. Then it happened. With only 30 seconds left in the fifth round, overhand right shattered Eddie's jaw in three places and he suddenly became a TKO victim.

Freeman wasn't sure if he would ever again climb back into a boxing ring. The Memphis featherweight was sidelined after the first and only loss of his professional career and it was a particularly discouraging time.

"At one time, I just said to hell with boxing, I don't want to do this anymore," recalls Freeman. "But I had to decide if I wanted to box for a living and I finally made up my mind I did. I guess it's in my blood for I know now I've trained with a lot more dedication since that injury."

Freeman had a lot of time for soulsearching about his boxing future while his jaw mended. "I have to give a lot of credit to my comeback to the U.S. 8th ranked junior welterweight, Jimmy Heair," says Freeman. "He's worked with me and given me a lot of encouragement. It would have been very difficult to do it without him," says Eddie.

The recovery, both mental and physical, has been complete, as he has won seven fights in a row, the first five by KO. The Holiday Inn Rivermont has been Eddie's stage for his sensational comeback. In his first return encounter, on April 26, 1977, he made short work by icing Little Rock's Leonard Boyd in two rounds. This was quickly followed by a four round KO of Gerald Bradley of New Orleans, La.

In one of the most exciting "pier six" brawls seen in Memphis in sometime, Freeman showed his talent and guts by turning from boxer to puncher to TKO San Antonio's Juan Navalette, a miniature Mexican Rocky Marciano, in the sixth round. "Boy, was he a game scrapper, the guy just never quit coming and was continuously bombing from every angle until I caught him with some terrific body shots. In that fight for the first time I really learned the value of effective body punching," gleefully says Eddie.

His fourth win in a row was a stunning one round KO of Cincinnati's George Williams, ending the contest with a vicious body assault. Then, eighteen days later, in his first ten round main event, he poleaxed rugged Rudolpho Flores of Mexico City in two heats.

On September 20, 1977, more success came Eddie's way as he won his second ten round main go over Mr. "Peanuts" Emerson of Cincinnati, who gave Eddie all he wanted. "He was a tough southpaw and truly ring wise. My superb condition proved to be the deciding factor," says Eddie.

Finally in Freeman's seventh win to date, he coped a close but unanimous ten round decision win over his toughest opponent to date, Billy Pearish, a Joplin, Mo. fighter rated as high as the thirteenth U.S. Junior Lightweight. Pearish was a classy fighter who outweighed Freeman by about 10 lbs. "His punches to the head weren't much but he had a terrific body shot, both high and low," said Freeman. The battle drew a standing ovation when the bell sounded to end the tenth round.

Freeman's career is definitely on an upward surge. He is trying to get a fight with featherweight James Martinez, Clovis, N.M., who is currently ranked 5th in the U.S. Ring ratings. "I lost a split decision to Martinez in the 1973 National Golden Gloves Finals," says Freeman. "He was the two-time defending champion and it was my first tournament. He couldn't hit, he was just a good boxer and I feel like I'm three times the fighter now than I was then."

Obviously, lack of confidence has never been a Freeman failing. "Bring on the Sean O'Gradys, the Ronnie McGarveys, the David Vasquezs, and the so called New England Featherweight Champ and darling, Jimmy Farrell. With the fine guidance of my manager, Red Fortner, and the expertise of a wonderful promoter in Mr. Jack 'Young Dempsey' Lazarov, I'm ready for them all," says Freeman. Maybe he is.

PINTOR KO'S VASQUEZ

By JIM P. NOLAND

▲San-Antonio, Texas — Lupe Pintor marched over Davey Vasquez, 117, on the road to a title shot. Pintor, 120, unloaded a right uppercut in the second round which collapsed the New Yorker for the full count. Earlier in the round, a left hook to the body caught Vasquez off balance for an "official" knockdown. The first round belonged to Pintor also.

After the brief workout, Pintor was questioned if his early knockouts would have any effect on him if he had to go fifteen rounds in a title match. He smilingly responded, "It's not my fault they go down early. I train hard to enable me to go the distance if I have to."

In the semifinal, 137 pound Robert Vasquez bounced the much bigger Paul Garcia off the floor three times in the seventh for his sixteenth win in eighteen fights.

Sammy Ayala bided his time and built up his stamina as he went 3-0 in the pros with a seventh round right hand knockout over lightweight Victor Villanueva of Laredo.

Javier Buentello of Robstown was gifted with a draw in his six round slugfest with Harrison Kiger, 122.

SORIA, SOSA WINS ARGENTINE TITLES

By SIMON BRONENBERG

▲**Guatimozin:** Good feather prospect Juan C. Alvarez beat Emilio Haedo by a disqualification in the second round.

▲**Mendoza:** In the welter division, Roberto Alfaro outpointed Floro Zarza in 10.

▲**Cordoba:** Feathers: Manuel Almada whipped Orlando Lucero in twelve rounds and retained local title.

▲**Rosario:** In the light division, Nicolas Arkuzsyn beat Oscar Alvarenga by a TKO in nine.

▲**Obera:** Middleweights: Carlos Nacimiento decisioned Americo Dononzoro in ten.

▲**Rio Cuarto:** In the feather class, Juan J. Noguera beat Raul Bianco by a TKO in five.

▲**San Luis:** In the middle division, Cesar Duarte whipped Hugo Oberon in ten and in the light class Abraham Valenzuela won Oscar Barrios by a TKO in seven.

▲**Tucuman:** In the fly class, Ramon Rodriguez outpointed Jose Ibiris in twelve for the local title.

▲**P. Roque Saenz Peña:** Feathers: Domingo Casco won Miguel Escobares in ten rounds.

▲**Villa Maria:** In the fly division, Raul "Nico" Perez decisioned Raul Pared in ten and undefeated Gustavo Ballas beat Felipe Rojas in ten rounds.

▲**Coronel Suarez:** Welters: Patricio Diaz and Anibal Di Lella drew in ten rounds.

▲**Salta:** In the middle class, Hugo Trujillo kayoed Delfin Barreto in the fourth.

▲**Santa Rosa:** In the welter class, Juan Cabral and Tito Del Barco drew in ten.

▲**Parana:** In the lightheavy class, Juan C. Portela outpointed Ricardo Balmaceda in ten rounds.

▲**Chajari:** Middles: Roberto Benitez beat Miguel Duro by a TKO in eight.

▲**General Pico:** In the Jr. middle class, Alfredo H. Cabral decisioned Roque Roldan in ten rounds.

▲**Realico:** Bantams: Hugo Emer whipped Diego Vera Ramirez, from Paraguay, in ten.

▲**Buenos Aires:** At the Luna Park Gym and in the welter class, Simon Escobar kayoed Oscar Ose in second round.

▲**La Plata:** Flyweights: In his first professional bout hard puncher Hugo Patri kayoed Jose Zarate in the first round.

▲**Villa Carlos Paz:** In the feather division, Ruben Riano beat Santos Farias in ten and middle Roberto Marcialli won from Alberto Almiron in ten.

▲**Buenos Aires:** At the ring of La Rural, middle Norberto Cabrera beat Juan Carlos Bogado by a disqualification in the seventh round. Middles: Jacinto Fernandez over Brasilian Juarez De Lima by a TKO in five and in jr. welter division, Juan J. Merlo defeated Gualberto Valdez, Uruguay, by a TKO in nine.

▲**Posadas:** In the Jr. middle class, Delfin Olivera outpointed Hector Centurion in ten rounds.

▲**La Rioja:** Argentine middle jr. champion Manuel Gonzalez outpointed Esteban Osuna in ten.—(Non title bout).

▲**Junin:** In the welter class, good prospect Ricardo Magallanes had his undefeated streak snapped by Carlos Villalba in ten.

▲**Obera:** Feathers: Francisco Acosta beat Oscar F. Barrios by a TKO in four.

▲**Tucuman:** In the jr. middle class Carlos Peralta won Oscar F. Barrios by a TKO in nine round.

▲**Rio Tercero:** Argentine super bantam champion Sergio Palma and Carlos Cordoba drew in ten rounds.—(Non title bout).

▲**Tres Arroyos:** In the light class, Juan Zuñiga, born in Chile, kayoed Jose Arias, from Uruguay, in the first round.

▲**San Martin (Mendoza):** In the heavy class, giant Juan Figueroa beat Roberto Aguilar in ten rounds.

▲**S. Carlos de Bariloche:** In the light weight class, Ramon Mirabal decisioned Aurelio Montenegro in ten rounds.

▲**Resistencia:** In the light class, veteran Ramon Duarte and Ramon Benitez, drew, ten.

▲**Salta:** Welters: Ramon Perez kayoed Alfredo Lucero in six.

▲**Cordoba:** In the light class, Miguel Figueroa decisioned Julio Melone in ten rounds.

▲**Las Varillas:** Jr. Welters: Hugo Quartapelle beat Jose Oroda in twelve rounds for the local title (Retained his crown).

▲**Venado Tuerto:** In the welter class, Luis Sosa whipped Nelson Torres, from Chile, in ten rounds.

▲**Neuquen:** In the jr. light division, Miguel Gonzalez and Luis "Quique" Valdez drew in ten rounds.

▲**Arroyito:** Lights: Oscar Albarracin outpointed Ramon Sosa in ten rounds. ▲**Boulogne:** In the light division, Miguel A. Barraza kayoed Hugo Puerto in the third.

▲**Buenos Aires:** At the Luna Park ring in the fly class, Ramon Soria beat Rodolfo Rodriguez in twelve rounds and won the Argentine fly title.

▲**Santa Rosa:** In the welter division, Luis "Golepa" Cabral outpointed Mario "Hammer" Miranda in ten rounds.

▲**Vertiz:** In the light class, Marciano Tura decisioned Venancio Gonzalez in ten.

▲**Tandil:** In the heavy class, Norberto Fiore kayoed Juan C. Morales in first round.

▲**BUENOS AIRES:** At the Luna Park ring, Argentine lightheavy champion Ramon Cerrezuela outpointed Ruben Gonzalez in ten.—(Non title bout).

▲**Necochea:** Argentine and Southamerica jr. light champion Victor Echegaray and Oscar "Cachin" Mendez, no decision in seventh round.—Referee stopped fight.—(Non title bout).

▲**S. Carlos Bariloche:** Argentine welter champ Miguel Angel Campanino retained his crown against Daniel Gonzalez in twelve rounds. Campanino won easily.

▲**Salta:** In the feather class, Hipolito Nuñez kayoed Facundo Villalba in fifth.

▲**R. Saenz Peña:** Feathers: Carlos Martinetti and Julio Alegre drew in ten rounds.

▲**Neuquen:** In the welter division, Jorge Garcia decisioned Antonio Juarez in ten.

▲**Catrilo:** Welters: Walter Gomez beat Miguel A. Fernandez in ten rounds.

▲**Saladillo:** Julio Domeneghini decisioned Miguel Ibañez in ten. They are welters.

▲**Cordoba:** Argentine bantam champion Julio C. Saba beat Raul "Nico" Perez in ten. (Non title bout).

▲**Chajari:** In the jr. welter division, Juan "Pamperito" Olivera decisioned Rodolfo Rojas in ten rounds.

▲**Tucuman:** In the light class, Luis Perez beat Ramon Araujo in ten rounds.

▲**Arrecifes:** In the fly class, Luis Gerez outpointed David Gonzalez in ten rounds.

▲**BUENOS AIRES:** At the Luna Park ring, Hector "Yeye" Hernandez won the Argentine jr. welter title from Carlos Maria Gimenez by a KO in the first round.

▲**Trelew:** In the welter class, Juan Cabral outpointed Julio Campagna in ten rounds.

▲**General Villegas:** In the jr. middle class good prospect and hard puncher Alfredo M. Cabral kayoed Rodolfo Rosales in the second round.

▲**Tandil:** In the feather division, Benicio Sosa decisioned Cesar Villarruel in ten.

▲**Dolores:** In the lightheavy division, Reynaldo Sandez beat Rosendo Toledo in ten.

▲**Mar de Ajo:** In the jr. welter division, Hugo Luero and Jose Luis Villanueva drew, ten rounds.

▲**Realico:** In the fly class, Santos Laciar beat Enrique Navarro by a TKO in the second round.

▲**BUENOS AIRES:** In the Luna Park Gym ring and in the middle class, Ricardo Arce and Alfredo Cruz drew in ten rounds.

▲**Godoy Cruz (Mondoza):**Argentine and South American middle champion Hugo Pastor Corro beat Antonio Garrido, from Chile, in twelve rounds and retained his South American crown.

▲**Tres Arroyos:** Flys: Miguel Lazarte beat Reinaldo Romero in ten rounds.

▲**Helvecia:** In the welter class, Juan Suarez won from Juan C. Galvan in ten rounds.

▲**Posadas:** Feathers: Francisco Acosta beat Alberto Pereyra in ten.

▲**Concepcion:** In the bantam class, Ramon Galarce and Jose Luis Lopez drew in ten.

▲**TRELEW:** Argentine feather champion Juan Domingo Malvarez beat Antonio Ross in eight rounds by a medical decision.—(Non title bout).

▲**Cañuelas:** In the bantam division, Jose Uziga and Jose Izquierdo drew in ten.

▲**Pergamino:** Undefeated in the middle class, Jose M. Flores Burlon outpointed Cesar Duarte in ten rounds.

▲**San Juan:** In the bantam division, Rolando Lahoz outpointed Estenan Bustos in twelve rounds for the local title.

▲**Salta:** In the middle class, Hugo Trujillo beat Natalio Ibarra in eight rounds.

▲**Cruz del Eje:** In the light class, Oscar Frias outpointed Jose I. Funes in ten.

▲**Parana:** In the welter class, Roque R. Castaldo beat Manuel Baigorria in ten.

▲**Rio Tercero:** Welters: Ramon E. Perez outpointed Ramon Peralta in twelve and retained local title.

▲**Coronel Pringles:** Argentine superbantam champion Sergio Palma lost to Manuel Almada by a disqualification in fourth round.—(Non title).

▲**Cordoba:** In the super-bantam class, Arnoldo "Pato" Aguero kayoed Hugo Emer in sixth round.

▲**Tucuman:** In the lightheavy class, Ruben Zamarro and Oscar Caro drew ten rounds.

▲**Mar del Plata:** In the welter class, Tito Yanni beat Patricio Diaz by a TKO in five. Diaz had his undefeated streak snapped in this fight.

▲**Formosa:** In the welter division, Jorge Paredes decisioned Buenaventura Ibarra in ten rounds.

▲**BUENOS AIRES:** In the last fight held in 1977 at the Luna Park ring, Juan C. Sosa won the Argentine lightheavy title from Antonio Musladino in twelve rounds.

▲**San Luis:** In the light division, Jorge "Polvorita" Gomez decisioned Abraham Valenzuela in ten rounds.

▲**Villa Mercedes:** In the welter division, Simon Escobar beat Nelson Torres, Chile, in ten rounds.

READ THE RING

CHIAVERINI HALTS GARCIA

By ROBERT CARSON

▲MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, KANSAS CITY, MO.—4,000 enthusiastic fight fans watched a methodical Tony Chaiverini pound veteran Jesse "Chu Cho" Garcia into a bloody mess within five rounds.

The very popular Shawnee, Kansas slugger was content to feel Garcia out with brisk jabs, and lefts. Garcia, 31 years old, and a veteran of over 160 professional fights, stood flatfooted and threw roundhouse rights and lefts. Garcia was cut by a powerful left hook from Chiaverini in the third round.

In the fourth round after a heated exchange Garcia went down. Without an eight count, "Chu Cho" bounded off the canvas and threw wild rights and lefts in a desperate attempt to penetrate the defense of the stronger Chiaverini. Tony was in complete command throwing hard jabs and lefts to the head of the frenzied Garcia. It was the beginning of the end for "Chu Cho". Tony, keeping a cool head throughout the fight, began to score heavily with left hooks and combinations to the head of the withering Garcia. Midway in the round, another deep cut was opened over "Chu Cho"'s left eye. After continuing barrage on the damaged brow, the crowd was yelling for the fight to be stopped. When the bell rang for the end of round four, with blood pouring from his eye, "Chu Cho" Garcia went to his corner. The ringside physician was summoned and the fight was wisely stopped.

Tony looked good in this fight, and showed a mature style in handling the long armed, rangey Garcia. This fight boosts Chiaverini's record to 20-2-1. (14 KO's)

The future of Tony Chiaverini, one of the toughest middleweights around, still hangs in the air.

In the curtain raiser Tony's younger brother, Cary Chiaverini, making his pro debut, lost a close four round decision to Dennis Horn. Horn, an experienced boxer from Oklahoma, had a rough time with the ever pressing Cary. Also on the card, Wardell Williams, Kansas City, won a six round decision over Tony Reed, Chicago. Tyrone Wren, Kansas City, won a six round decision over Steve Bowen, St. Louis. And Ivy Brown, Kansas City, won a six round decision over Ron Burton.

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ROTHWELL BLASTS MIKE EVERETT

By NIGEL COLLINS

▲Philadelphia, Pa.—The Spectrum opened the 1978 boxing season with a triple-ten bill that attracted 4,431 hardy patrons despite the worst local snow storm of the decade.

In the windup, comebacking junior light Augie Pantellas scored a TKO over gallant but mismatched Mexican Isaac Vega at 2:54 of the fifth-round.

Vega, a shifty southpaw who came into the fight with a pitiful 6-4 pro record, gave a valiant effort, but was in way over his head.

Pantellas, 130, had been sidelined for six months with a broken right hand suffered in his last bout. He looked rusty and was forced to take numerous light punches before finding the range late in the fourth.

Vega, also 130, seemed reluctant to answer the bell for the start of the fifth-round after sampling a couple of Augie's body bombs in the fourth. Never-the-less, Isaac came out full of fire and outpunched the "Golden Greek" during a torid exchange along the ropes.

Pantellas took advantage of Vega's willingness to swap haymakers and finally nailed the visitor with a short left hook for the first of two knockdowns. Vega beat the count only to be quickly dropped again, this time by a solid right to the chin. Once more the brave Mexican struggled to his feet. Referee Hank Cisco took one look at the dazed fighter and wisely called a halt. Vega had no business being in the ring with Pantellas in the first place.

It was a useful workout for Augie, now 26-5 with 20 KO's, but hardly the sort of test needed to put him back in the ratings.

Undefeated "Skinny" Jimmy Rothwell won a lot of new fans when he blasted crosstown rival, Mike everett, for a sensational sixth-round TKO in a scheduled 10-round junior welter tilt.

Everett, who was making his first start since being stopped by WBC champ Shengsak Muangsurin in a Thailand title challenge, spent the first five rounds arrogantly strutting around the ring in an attempt to intimidate his cautious adversary. He made an occasional wild rush at Rothwell, but accomplished very little.

Rothwell, 144, finally came out of his defensive shell in the sixth. The lanky counterpuncher timed an Everett charge perfectly and caught Mike with a hard left hook. Down went Everett for an automatic eight-count.

Mike was still glassy eyed when he staggered to his feet. "Skinny Jimmy" cut loose with both hands, punishing Everett with every punch. Referee Rudy Battles was forced to rescue the battered loser at 2:40 of the round.

It was a popular win for Rothwell, who raised his pro log to 13-0 with 6 KO's. For Everett, now 23-6-1 with 10 KO's, it seems like the end of the line. He has been stopped in three of his last four outings.

Philly's latest lightweight prospect, Wade Hinnant, passed his toughest test to date by hammering out a unanimous 10-round decision over veteran trial horse Johnny Copeland of Missouri. Although Copeland is not the threat he was a few years ago, he still packs a decent wallop in his right glove. Johnny tried to catch Hinnant with his Sunday punch, but after a good opening session he never looked to be in the fight.

Hinnant, 139½, scored a flash knockdown in the fourth and wobbled Copeland, 137, on several other occasions. His work to the body had Johnny grunting in pain, however, and the inexperienced youngster lost a possible kayo by head hunting too much.

It was a positive step up in class for Wade and another win added to his 11-0 (5 KO's) record. Copeland, a well traveled 33-26-1 (28 KO's), said he was thinking of retirement. It sounds like a good idea to this reporter; Johnny's legs are shot.

Hard punching local, Rudy Donato, 163½, had an easy time with soft-chinned Henry "Slick" Mitchell, 165, from Florida. Rudy landed a single right cross and it was lights out for Mitchell in one round.

A pair of "white hopes" scored record padding kayos after the main event. Warminster's Billy Wareham, 160, climbed all over inept Greg Joiner, 159, of Philadelphia, for a first round TKO, while Upper Darby slugger Richie "The Bandit" Bennett, 165, needed two rounds to dispatch Ed Warren, 165, of Chester.

North Philly newcomer Jerome "Silky" Jackson upset previously unbeaten "Irish" Ted Mann of Vineland, N.J., in a hard fought middleweight show opener.

▲BLUE HORIZON—Unbeaten heavyweight prospect Marvin Stinson tallied his seventh straight win with a unanimous eight round decision over New Yorker Johnny Warr. Marvin is managed by Joe Frazier, who was at ringside. Although Stinson won almost every round, he never came close to stopping the game but outgunned Warr. The scores of 40-33, 40-35 and 39-31 reflected the one-sided nature of the contest.

Stinson suffered a cut over his left eye in the fifth, but good corner work stopped the wound from becoming a major factor.

The winner pounded Warr, 19 pounds lighter at 187, with a steady stream of short combinations to both the head and body. Johnny fought back the best he could and shared in the applause.

South Philadelphian John "Bang-Bang" Carter, 120, edged Trenton's Johnny Glover, 123, over six rounds of crisp boxing. This pair of youngsters put on a fine display of old fashioned standup boxing.

1977 National Golden Gloves champ Curtis Parker, of Philadelphia, bombed Harry Fryer, 163, for a third round TKO. Parker, also 163, was plastering Fryer all over the ring when ref George Hill called him off at 2:58 of the round.

In a travesty of a fight, Broderick Mason, 205, left hooked Burt Reid, 192, clean out of the ring for a opening round kayo. Mason is a good pro prospect with an extensive amateur background, while Reid is an unknown who came into the ring with no robes and wearing a pair of sneakers. This sort of matchmaking will get someone killed. The win lifted Mason to 4-0 with 2 KO's.

Local gamecocks Tony Still and Pete Torres slugged their way to an action filled four round draw. Torres, 123, put Still, 122, on the canvas in both the first and second rounds; however, Tony never gave up and punched back to take the last two frames. The best scrap of the night and a good bet for a return go.

Lefty Gary Hinton, 135½, dropped brave Billy Jones, 132, on his way to a four round points win. Both local lads were making their pro debut.

The card, that drew 857 fans on a wintery night, was promoted by the Spectrum Boxing Dept., J. R. Peltz matchmaker.

▲UPPER DARBY—Unbeaten local middleweight Tony "Rocky" Tassone scored a second round TKO over Baltimore veteran Lester Camper for promoter Ed Crawford at the 69th Street Forum.

Tassone, 164, suffered a nasty cut over his left eye in the opening frame and was in danger of being stopped.

Camper, 158, was trying to work on the cut when Tassone hurt him with a potent left. Tony rushed in and floored Camper with a flurry of head shots. Lester managed to beat the count, but was not allowed to continue. Referee Ossie Sadler wrapped a protective arm around the loser and called a halt at 1:41 of the round.

It was Tassone's 12th win in 14 pro outings. He has boxed two draws.

South Philadelphia Kevin Moefield, 150, held Upper Darby's Mike Picciotti, 147½, to a six round draw in a well fought semi-final. It was a measure of revenge for Moefield as he had lost a controversial decision to Picciotti at the same venue last year.

Exciting Upper Darby slugger Mickey Diflo, 138, TKO'd brave Hector Pereira, 137, in the third round of a free swinging brawl. Diflo, who loves to mix it up, is never in a dull fight.

Vic Pappas, 135½, destroyed easy mark Keith Bennett, 144, for a one round knockout. The winner is from Upper Darby, the loser, from Philly.

Chester's Pedro Lebron, 126, scored a cut eye TKO when the ringside medic would not let Mark "Moon" Christian, 126, out for the fourth-round.

North Philly's Herbert Hughes, 145, scored two knockdowns on his way to a four round points win over Jim Deviney, 145, of Philadelphia. It was the first pro bout for each boxer.

WARD VS. WEAVER

(Continued from page 24)

slug and push Weaver around the ring. But forty extra pounds—well, as they say about noses, bigger isn't always better. In the sixth round Weaver came alive and staggered Ward with hard shots to the head and body.

Ward managed a small comeback over the next few rounds, but the last three frames were all won by Weaver. Ward was tired, arm weary, and flatfooted. The last round was very good for Weaver—but not good enough. Two lefts to the head knocked Ward against the ropes, which kept him upright, and Weaver finished the round like he was working over a heavy bag. When the bell sounded, Ward wobbled back to his corner, anything but the picture of a winner.

Despite Weaver's late rally, it was Ward's early lead that held up as the official cards read 115-113, 117-113, and 117-113.

In a ten rounder between middleweights, Robby Epps, of Los Angeles, won nine out of ten rounds over Andre Beard. Both fighters weighed 159.

Epps, who has been fighting pro for only seven months, has now won all eleven of his fights, including victories over Zovek Barajas and Henry Walker. Epps is only nineteen years old and moved from South Carolina to fight-happy California to establish himself.

In the opening bout, a scheduled eight rounder, Reynaldo Zaragoza got more of a workout climbing into the ring than he did in his fight against Ad Zapada. A left hook to the midsection dropped Zapada for the ten count at 0.36 into the first round. Zaragoza, 130, from Stockton, previously decisioned Zapada, 127, San Diego. Zaragoza, managed by Frank Dobales, is now 12-0-1, 8 by knockout, and is headed for main events.

SATO KAYOES NAVARETTE

By FELIPE J. C. GALANG

▲Cagayan de Oro City: Johnny Sato, 126, halted Rolando Navarette, 126, in the eighth round of a scheduled ten. Billy Abato, 119, stopped Little Paramount, 118, in the eighth. Promoted by David Tacandong.

▲Binan, Laguna: Danilo Berdida, 118, beat Rogelio dela Rosa, 118, in ten. Romeo Olivetti, 130, whipped Teo Espinosa, 130, by unanimous decision. Promoted by Oscar Reyes.

▲Sta. Maria, Bul.: Pedro Lipata, 125, won a split decision over Elmer Arriesgado, 124, ten rounds.

▲Agusan del Norte: Nilo Acido, 120, defeated Benny Vargas in ten. Bill Abrogar, 120, beat Renato Paulino, 120, in ten. Promoted by Narciso Martinez.

▲Angeles, Pampanga: Arnel Arrozal, 116, stopped Flash Gapasin, 116 in the ninth round. Veteran Fred Pastor, 136, lost to Mar Alverio, 130, in ten by unanimous vote. Fred "Bruce Len" Basa beat Dony Soriano, 130, in ten rounds, winning the vacant junior lightweight title. Promoted by Antonio Esguerra.

▲Baguio City: Georgie Tam, 122, kayoed Rene Cruz, Jr. in the fourth round of the scheduled ten round main event. Rey Tam, 131, defeated Manny Ysrael, 130, by unanimous decision. Promoted by Alberto Della.

▲Butuan City: Bill Abrogas, 123, beat Renato Pulino, 119, in ten.

▲Baguio City: Rey Orbino, 116, won over Bufronio Payod, 119, by split decision. Mike Binetez, 137, kayoed Rey Bustillos, 140, in the second round. Frisco Montemayor, 140, lost to Cruz when kayoed in the second round. Promoted by Severino "Burot" Cruz.

▲Olongapo City: Flash Oliver, 129, kayoed Montemayor, Jr., 133 in the second round.

▲Sukat, Paranaque: Larry Enriquez, 120, won over Rolando Rosuento, 119, in ten. Erning Grafe, 129 stopped Max Toyogon in two.

▲Barotac Nuevo, Iloilo: Boy Oliva, 130, decisioned Vic Borja, 130, in ten. Gueller Turrida, 135, lost to Roberto Despi, 135, in ten.

▲Davao del Norte: Ric Barrimbad, 110, kayoed Romeo Labrador, 111, in two.

▲Cagayan de Oro: Danilo Incian, 112, beat George Munial, 109, in ten. Promoted by Ismael Villar. Franco Torregoss, 113, outpointed Tony Co, 112, in ten.

▲Davao City: Jun Lacanas, 119, beat Jaime Sanahan, 119, in ten. Promoted by Agustin Garcia. Boy Lindez kayoed Flash Escobar, 107, in the third round. Nene Jun, 120, whipped Manny Ysrael, 132, in ten.

▲Cagayan de Oro: Rusty Kid, 131, beat Teo Espinosa, 131, in ten rounds. Diony Cortez, 118, lost to Billy Abato, 119, in ten.

▲Aurora, Isabela: Romeo Olivetti, 128, stopped Rogelio Garcia, 133, in seven. Promoted by Oscar Reyes.

▲Balagtas, Bulaacan: Sany Noora, 122, bested Arman Bangoyan, 121, and won the junior featherweight championship. Promoted by Teddy Rado.

▲Ozamis City: Siony Carupo, 109, outpointed Ver Limbradilla, 109, in ten.

▲Bukidnon: Ric Blanea, 112, decisioned Ben Ayudtud, 112 in ten.

▲Cabanatuan City: Rolly Garcia, 108, won over Tito Abella, 110, in ten. Fel Viesca, 126, kayoed Nesty Winter, 126, in fifth. Promoted by Samuel Garcia.

▲Paniqui, Tarlac: Rey Bustillos, 141, beat Vic Borja, 139, in ten. Promoted by Solomon Garcia.

▲Baguio City: Geogorge Tam TKO'd Al Fabian, 123, in three.

▲Davao City: Cris Otero, 135 beat Flor Tolentino, 137, in ten. Promoted by Casin Juma Ani. Danilo Inocian, 113, stopped Ed. Cabreros, 114, in the third.

▲Davao City: Winnie Guinista, 135, defeated Erning Marin, 138, in ten. Nick Caputol, 129, kayoed Roy Beramil, 128, in the seventh. Joby Pulido, 119, drew with Rusty Torrecampo, 119, in ten. Andy Balbaba, 110, Bested George Pedroso, 109 in ten.

▲Cebus City: Rene Cruz, Jr., 120, drew with El Mago, 120, in ten. Moises Cantoja, 136, kayoed Yumgil Park in eight.

GANIGAN STOPS CAMPOS

By TED YAMACHIKA

Andrew Ganigan, 135½, Honolulu, methodically won his twenty-second consecutive fight with a sixth round TKO win over Ignacio Negro Campos, 133¾, Mexico, at the Blaisdell Center arena. This was also Ganigan's twentyth knockout win.

It wasn't that great a victory for the Island lad, considering the fact that he was the overwhelming favorite to begin with. He displayed his superiority over his unrated opponent from the opening bell, but nothing really exciting happened until the sixth, when the outclassed but ever game Campos landed a good hard right. The blow stunned Ganigan momentarily. Then, as he said later, he got angry and got down to business. Ganigan floored the Mexican with a terrific right. Campos beat the count but appeared dazed, and Referee Wilbert Minn stopped the fight at 2:10 of the round.

The fight, the first of the year, was promoted by the Boxing Enterprises, Ltd. and drew 6,559 fans.

Ruben Martinez, 137¾, Mexico, defeated Amie Peregrine, 139, Philippines, in eight.

Koroseta Kid, 196½, knocked out William Vea, 226¼, Honolulu, in two.

Ronald Richardson, 136, Honolulu, beat Jorge Zenquis, 135¾, Honolulu, in four.

Male Fale, 128½, Honolulu, decisioned Mario Manrique, 128¼, Mexico, in the opener.

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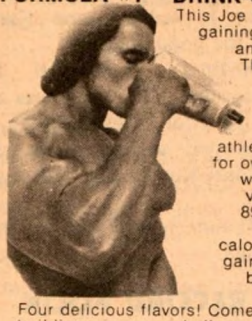

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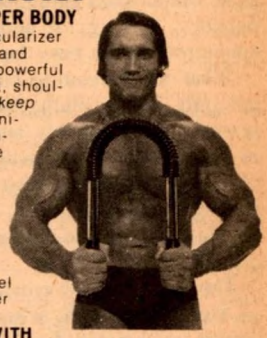

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HONG OVER KASAHARA

(Continued from page 18)

Kasahara looked very sharp in round seven, as if the knockdowns had not happened previously. Kasahara proved he was a stylish, long distance boxer who kept punching on the textbook pattern. This was the Japanese jabber's chance to turn the tide as he outpunched Hong, who tossed very few punches, waiting for another opportunity to counterpunch the busy Japanese.

What the defending champ awaited came not only in the ninth, but also in the tenth session. Hong harshly attacked the Japanese in the ninth round, when he put his full weight behind roundhouse resistless punches. Yu again hit the deck. Coupled with his fragile jaw, he also had incredibly quick recovery.

The well packed crowd got excitingly to its feet in the tenth, when Hong, apparently aiming at a quick finish, battered the Nipponese with relentless rallies to collapse him flat with his face half out of the lowest ropes on the apron. After Kasahara managed to beat the count, he was forced against the ropes only to again prove his jaw is made of glass. Hong's follow-up sank Yu to the canvas for the fifth time in the contest. Despite our thoughts, it was not the end of the affair. Kasahara sprang up to retaliate, though he was banged out by Hong's stronger combinations.

Hong might have punched himself out if the combat were to go the distance, but Hong cleverly set the pace.

For three rounds, beginning in the eleventh stanza, the lanky Korean displayed few punches and seemed to be content to demonstrate Ali style footwork. Kasahara regained his feet well to resume outjabbing and punching the suddenly passive champ. But Hong's annoying mobility, his frequent swaying back with his hands down and relying on rope-a-dope tactis, allowed him to avoid all the solid punches.

Hong might have been out of shape because he rapidly lost his usual zip and speed which he showed in the earlier stages. On many occasions Hong was cornered by Yu's straight punches in round fourteen, although he always dodged the most powerful blows in Yu's all-out combos. Kasahara dominated the round clearly.

If the Japanese youngster wanted to win, there was only one way left, to knock out Hong with his best shots. He tried to; however, Hong averted them with his weary arms.

Despite Yu's fine come back in later rounds, he could not be a points victor, since he had suffered five knockdowns.

The Korean champ entered the ring a quarter pound heavier than Kasahara's 121½.

Hong Soo-Hwan, who had decked South Africa's Arnold Taylor time and again to win a stunning lopsided decision in 15 heats at Johannesburg to win the world bantam title in 1974, is now Korea's most popular fighter. The father of two children, Hong moved up to the newly established 122-pound class and steadily piled up good wins.

"I am sorry I couldn't stop Kasahara sooner with all the good chances."

In a semi-final, ex-national leader Waruinge Nakayama, 122, who was a Kenyan who had lived for years in Osaka, went down in the second session to be closely outscored by Kosei Kawaguchi, half a pound lighter, in ten.

Some 11,000 fans turned out for the action pocked bouts.

RING RECORD BOOK

(Continued from page 38)

throughout the world, and an explanation of the different scoring systems.

The amateurs are not neglected, either. There's a list of all Olympic champs since 1904, and National A.A.U. and Golden Glove champs, too.

Like its thirty-six predecessors, the *1978 Ring Record Book* is published in a limited edition. The 1977 edition is all sold out, and those desiring a copy of the new book (1978) are advised to send for it at once. There are no back copies available except the 1962, 1963, and 1964 editions. All the rest have been sold out, and even these three books are disappearing rapidly.

The publisher wishes to warn all those who would pirate material from *The Ring Boxing Encyclopedia and Record Book* that its contents are fully protected by copyright. He is prepared to go to court to prosecute offenders.

The 1978 Ring Boxing Encyclopedia and Record Book contains more than 850 pages of information. It's for the fan who would become a buff and for the buff who would become an expert. Get it, use it with care, and you will, indeed, be in possession of a collector's item.

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GOMEZ WINS

(Continued from page 20)

and resume fighting after British referee Harry Gibbs tolled a mandatory eight count against him. But Kobayashi' feet looked too paralyzed to respond to Wilfredo's swarming follow-up. Gomez threw three additional punches that only touched Kobayashi's face, but made him go down again. The rubber-legged Japanese desperately attempted to fight back, but was dropped once more by an overwhelming attack by Gomez.

The third man again counted at Kobayashi's third visit to the canvas, since the three-knockdown rule had been waived by mutual understanding of both corners. It was obvious that Kobayashi was unable to continue, although he arose. The ref declared the full count. Time was 1:25.

Gomez' sharpness in punching was, in fact, more than expected and reported. He seemed to those of us at ringside to be one of the best balanced fighters at both offense and defense.

Up to the spectacular kayo, the ref scored the affair 19-19, while Puerto Rican judge Roberto Ramirez had it 20-19 for Gomez, and Japanese Kazumasa Kuwada saw it 20-18 for Royal.

Wilfredo appeared after a six month layoff since his demolition of Mexico's Raul Tirado in 12 heats of Gomez' first defense in San Juan last July. He suffered a fracture of the left jaw which caused the card with Kobayashi to be postponed three times since the original August 11 date due to the delay of Wilfredo's recovery. The WBC had threatened to strip Gomez of his title if he should put off this card again for any reason.

The victor expressed his pleasure after the psychologically difficult defense in a foreign ring: "Kobayashi was a very strong puncher. After his good attack in the first round, I kept cautious for a while, but I solved his aggressive style.

"The knockout punch? It was not a lucky blow; but I aimed to use the best punch of mine."

Gomez looked more like a naive youngster than a dynamite puncher who had 21 straight knockouts.

Manager Ymil Chade said, praising Kobayashi's gameness, "Had Wilfredo not been his opponent, Kobayashi would now be champion with his power punching. If Wilfredo makes his next defense Paul Ferreri of Australia, we'd like to challenge bantam champ Carlos Zarate, as my boy can make the 118 pound limit."

The loser, Kobayashi, frankly admitted Wilfredo's superior punching. "Gomez was very clever. He avoided most of my all-out attack. The good start made me too wild and careless to cover my button with gloves properly.

"I tried to go on after the knockdowns, but my feet did not allow me to."

Manager Takahashi said gloomily that it might be a good idea for Kobayashi, with a developed torso to be free from a severe weight reduction and return to the featherweight class.

In a semi-windup, Kenzo Takasugi, 121, counterpunched Hiroaki Otsuchi, 120¾, so well that he outscored the busier guy in eight rounds.

A preliminary six saw Kazuyuki Koshina, 121, drop Hiyoshimaru Ito, 121½, three times and out in the second round.

There were four other four-rounders on the televised card at Kitakyushu CIty Gymnasium.

GUSHIKEN VS. VARGAS

(Continued from page 15)

been bleeding, he could not have caught the elusive Gushiken, nor overcome such a great deficit in points.

Vargas' durability and determination won the praise of the crowd in Nagoya, where four world title fights had taken place on previous occasions: bantam Fighting Harada's upset decision over Eder Jofre in 1965, Harada's revenge nod over Joe Medel in 1967, Mexican Ruben Olivares' fierce kayo of Kazuyoshi Kanazawa in fourteen heats in 1971, and Guts Ishimatsu's split draw with Tury Pineda three years later. By drawing a sell out crowd, Gushiken showed he was as good an attraction as those popular champs.

But Gushiken, with the nickname of "Fierce Eagle," seemed this night to lack his usual sharpness, and the killer instinct with which he had dethroned Juan Guzman, Dominican Republic, in the seventh round of his ninth pro bout in Kofu City in October, 1976. That is this reporter's view.

Last year, Gushiken registered three defenses by outscoring Panama's ex-champ Jaime Rios in January, whipping Rigoberto Riasco of Panama in May and stopping Thai Montsayarm Mahachai in four quick rounds in October.

Modest youngster Gushiken, with only a few bruises on the face, said that "Vargas was a real tough guy. In order not to exhaust myself by punching such a determined rival as Vargas, I tried to hit blows in combination rather than to put my full weight behind every punch. I knew Vargas was gradually fading at fighting spirit and power with his back against the ropes or the corner so long." Vargas breathlessly answered this reporter in his dressing room. "Gushiken was fast and clever. I could not hit him. But I don't think he's the best puncher I've ever met. Because of this bad gash, from which blood kept streaming to affect my sights, I was unable to see Gushiken's punches well."

Now Yoko Gushiken's triumph upped his record to thirteen wins against no loss, including eight knockouts.

There are two plans about his future, according to his manager, Kanehira. One is for the lefty puncher to face Venezuela's WBC champ, Luis Estaba, for the undisputed title in the 108-pound class, while the other calls for him to challenge Miguel Canto's for the latter's flyweight crown. Gushiken, a frank young man, repented at not having finished Vargas earlier.

In a supporting ten, Ryuichi Narita, 145¾, gained a popular majority decision from local favorite Kazunori Shiratori, 147, though one judge made us laugh at his 50-50 score after ten heats.

In a rpreliminary eight, Gushiken's stablemate and up-and-coming JBC second welterweight Akio Kameda, 146, easily halted Mamoru Taira, 145¾, in the third round. Kameda has tabbed five kayos in as many pro outings, after disappointing the amateur circle's expectations of his winning a Gold Medal in the Olympic Games.

Olga Fikotova Conolly, former Olympic discuss champion for Czechoslovakia in 1956, became the first woman to serve on the California Athletic Commission, which regulates boxing and wrestling in that state, when nominated by Governor Edmund Brown Jr. in late 1977.

ARGUELLO VS. ESCALERA

(Continued from page 16)

Jose Cuevas. And now Escalera. These three losses have been against possibly the heaviest punching trio of champions to come around in quite a while. José Cuevas, Roberto Duran, and Alexis Arguello are throwbacks to the fighters of a long gone era. But Arguello definitely ranks first in this group.

What now for Alexis?

"I'd like to go where the money is, and the money is with a fight with Roberto Duran," said the champ.

Money is Arguello's big concern. He has no love for the boxing game, but values it for the amounts of money it can produce in a short time.

"I do not take pleasure in beating a man's brains, and as soon as I have my bundle I'm getting out of this," stated Arguello after the fight.

The most articulate new title holder admitted that Escalera was his toughest encounter and was agreeable to giving him a return match, if he wanted another try at it.

Arguello stated: "I have nothing but high praise for Escalera and was never offended by his remarks against my person. It was his way of building up the gate by creating a certain degree of animosity that really didn't exist. He is a great showman."

It was a record breaking fight in many respects. It was:

1-The 11th defense of a titleholder in a 16 months period (Escalera).

2-The highest live gate in the world in last 15 years (over $400,000), below the heavyweight division.

3-The second highest in Puerto Rican history. (The first was the Ali-Coopman bout which drew $450,000).

4-The number one in all-time attendance for Puerto Rico (approx. 18,000 fans).

5-Possibly the first fight card held in a steady downpour from beginning to end, without any letup.

And what about the difference of opinion between Dr. Amaury Capella and referee Arthur Mercante on halting the bout?

Here are the Doctor's comments on why he let it go on as far as he did: "I've known Alfredo for a long time and know what he can do under adverse circumstances. He is, in fact, a cool fighter in tough situations. I also know that Alfredo is a quick healer and that type of wound would not keep him from fighting again once it healed.

"Also you have to take into consideration that it was a world championship bout and that you have to try to give the fighters the benefit of the doubt as long as possible," said the doctor who was called in to look over Escalera the first time in the tenth.

"Mercante is an excellent referee, one of the best I've seen, and it was correct for him to be concerned, but in the matter of wounds I think I know a little more."

Puerto Rico now has two titleholders out of the all-time record of five. Hard hitting Wilfredo Gomez, who just successfully defended his super bantam title against Royal Kobayashi and has a tough one scheduled against Kayo artist Carlos Zarate, and fleet footed Samuel Serrano, who is slated to go to the African continent for his next opponent.

As far as Escalera is concerned, although his wife seems to be pressuring him towards retirement, the possibilities are strong that he will regain the junior lightweight title.

With Arguello gunning for Roberto Duran's title because of weight problems, Escalera could once again be top dog in this division.

The semi-final ten rounder saw Diego Alcala of Panama score a unanimous decision over Enrique Solis in a rather tame affair. Alcala is in line for an encounter with the new titleholder.

CRITICS CORNER

(Continued from page 39)

means of making a living—any more than a plumber should be prohibited from keeping at his job if *he* refused induction." Most of them got no further than Plimpton's abortive letter to his senator.

> "Dear Senator:
> I think you'll agree something is wrong here."

But that nagging guilt kept at Plimpton, kept him at Ali's side until the final reclaiming of the championship in Zaire; and after George had asked the expected question of the champ, what he would remember about the victory, Ali asked *him* one of the first questions he has ever asked him in all the years he's known him.

"And what about you?"

"Well . . . . What I remember is that it made me so unbelievably content."

Because, in the final analysis, it was Ali himself who had to do it. And once, when Plimpton fancied he would like to make a collection of death fantasies of various people he knew (another intriguing chapter), and a friend asked, "What do you want to know such things for? I thought you were writing a book about boxing," he replied, "I am. But a lot of other stuff seems to creep in. It's mostly about people taking matters into their own hands—gangsters, mercenaries, jealous lovers, outraged writers. I've developed a near-vigilante, antibureaucratic attitude I don't like at all. Maybe it has to do with how ineffectual we were with Ali when he had his title removed—those feeble efforts we made, as custodians, to press for his rights."

I don't feel like guessing at the place of "Shadow Box" in the history of boxing literature. But it makes damn fine reading.

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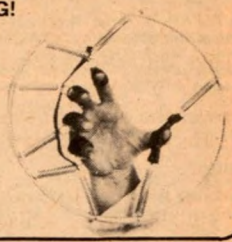

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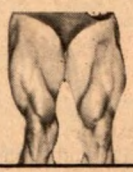

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ORIENT ACTION

By JOE Y. KOIZUMI

▲TOKYO, JAPAN—A doubleheader was this year's first card at the mecca of our Fighting, Korakuen Hall, where some 1,500 customers were in attendance. Fast moving Chikara Igarashi, ex-national flyweight champion, engaged in a rather easy game with unheralded Shigeo Maezawa, from whom the former won a technical kayo in 39 seconds of the eighth round. Both scaled in a 112 pounds. In first five rounds they seldom tossed leather, to cause the crowd's cynical booing:

Igarashi, his taller rival's senior by two years at 26, commenced the fireworks with his continual two-fisted attack in the sixth session. In round seven the former champ opened a bad gash over Maezawa's left eyebrow. A towel was tossed in to save the bleeding loser from furtherpunishment.

In the first tenner, Yoshiaki Ogino, a hard-hitting JBC top contender with a 16-2 record (12 by kayo), was fully annoyed by Toshiharu Nambu's elusiveness and counterpunching in a disappointing split draw.

Each entered the ring at 142¼ pounds. Ogino's reckless rallies had him in command in the fourth canto, while Nambu, counterpunching all the way, appeared to take the lead by a slight margin each in the third, sixth and seventh rounds.

JBC officials scored as follows: referee Ugo 47-47, judges Shimakawa and Uchida 49-47 (for Ogino) and 48-46 (for Nambu), respectively.

A supporting eight finished in the third round when Kazunori Atomura, 126, revealed his weak jaw and was kayoed by Tadashi Yatsuka, 125¼. Bantie Kenichi Ito stopped Panda Ueda midway in the fifth session. They weighed in at a quarter pound lighter than the bantam limit.

▲TOKYO—Rising Masahiro Yokai, a 23-year-old puncher who had captured a JBC lightweight title last year and had continued a kayo streak to seven, proved he was worthy of the Knockout Award given by Tokyo Writers Club last December. Yokai roughly demolished Mitsuhiro Namane, No. 4 contender at 136 pounds, in seven lopsided rounds at Korakuen Hall.

Tall and sturdy Yokai upped his record to 12 wins (with nine kayos) against three defeats, while Nakane's dropped to 20-8-2 (six by knockout). Yokai must master how to defend himself more effectively.

In a semi-windup eight, ex-local Shinjin-o (Novice King) winner Kazufumi Shimono was held to a well-received draw after give-and-take exchanges with Masami Ito. Each tipped the beam at 134 pounds.

Another eight saw a draw between Katsuo Takuno and Hiroaki Ito, both of whom scaled in at the 118-pound limit.

The good card was presented by Saida Promotion and telecast through Tokyo 12 Channel.

▲TOKYO—Junior lightweight prospects of Japan and Korea, both the number three contenders, met before 1,400 witnesses at Korakuen Hall. Hard hitting lefty, Ryu Fukida, who had kept a winning streak since his return from a Hawaii campaign two years ago, was amazingly dropped on five occasions to be stopped by Choi Mun-Sok, 128½, in 2:48 of the fourth session.

When aggressive Fukida, 129¾, floored the newcomer with a crisp right at the button for a compulsory eight count near the end of the second round, an expected finish imminent. However muscular armed Choi, reportedly with a 29-7-1 record including 22 kayos, displayed a tremendous recovery despite the bad bleeding and the knockdown in the third round. Choi's superiority in power was such that he connected well with strong blows, which sent the Japanese onto the deck thrice in the fourth round to be awarded an automatic hayo triumph. 22 year-old Choi, who had been traded from Korea by Tokyo's Kyokuto Promotion, will become a sensation here if he faces JBC top notchers in the junior lightweight class. Fukida suffered the sixth setback against 14 wins (8 KOs) and one draw.

In a companion tenner, promising flyweight Shigeo Nakajima, WBA No. 9 contender after his upset kayo from JBC champ Kazunori Tenryu last winter, collected another victim in stopping Yukimitsu Kondo, 109¾, with good body punches in 2:29 of the third round. Unbeaten Nakajima, 7-0-1 with four kayos, scored sharply with plenty of right double blows to the southpaw's face, winning the first two round with ease. Nakajima, 24, swarmed over the lanky, awkward foe in the third round, when he received a slight gash at the left eyebrow due to an accidental butt, but decked the JBC No. 6 man twice for the count. Nakajima's mobility should be improved to be smoother. The slugfest televised at night by TV Asahi was presented by a co-operation of Yonekura and Kyokuto Promotions.

▲TOKYO—It was California's Bruce Curry Fuji's third appearance here. 20-year-old Bruce's opponent was the JBC's No. 3 junior welterweight hope Minoru Sugiya, 18, a short but stout built puncher with seven kayos in as many pro outings, whom Curry polished off at just 3:00 of the third round. Curry proved too much for Sugiya from the start, as the faster puncher overwhelmed the Japanese infighter with flashing combos. It was obvious how Curry and manager Jesse Reid had estimated the Japanese foe, Sugiya, since this fight took place only eight days before Curry's rematch with Benitez at the Garden.

Curry, weighing at 142 pounds, improved his record to 13 wins with six kayos against only one loss.

The first tenner resulted in a monotonous showing full of clinches and sly tactics. Bomber Uchida, JBC No. 3 junior lightweight guy, kept boring in, but often grabbed taller boxer Hikaru (Ko) Tomonari, No. 3 featherweight and son of an ex-amateur great ringster, in a dull contest. Each weighed in at 128 pounds.

JBC officials tabbed a unanimous but close verdict, as referee Shimakawa and judge Tezaki dually scored 48-47, while Yoshida had it 49-48; all for the bull fighter.

▲OSAKA, JAPAN—A double 10 rounder was witnessed by some 2,000 fans at Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium. Each resulted in a very close contest. Veteran Jaguar Sekino, JBC No. 6 featherweight, came from Tokyo to find Shinichi Aoki, a local Shinjin-o victor and No. 7 guy, elusive to be held to a draw in 10. There were no knockdowns, but the man who kept chasing was the older Sekino due to Aoki's over cautiousness. Ref Inukai saw the action lacking affair 49-46 for Aoki, but judges Kurume and Fujita both had it 47-47.

In another tenner, ex-lightweight champ Masa Ito lost to African Sunny Mason Koga's by a hairline mjority nod. The ref gave his vote 49-47, as judge Kurume did 48-47 in Mason's favor, while another judge Matsumoto saw it a draw 47-47. Ito continually displayed his specialty, sharp jabbing, to dominate the third and eighth rounds, but Mason had the ex-champ at bay with solid uppercuts from his puzzling southpaw style in round five. A wicked left of Mason landed Ito's chin, in the tenth canto, dropping him for the mandatory eight count so that a decision went to the taller Mason.

Ito scaled in a quarter pound heavier than Koga's 134.

In a supporting eight, Jo Araki, JBC No. 9 bantie, KO'd Abebe Yoshida, 117¾, in less than two rounds, as the former, at 120, demolished the latter with two harsh knockdowns.

Masao Mizui, 117¾, outscored hitherto unbeaten Masanobu Takano, at the same weight, in six hot rounds.

▲PUSAN, KOREA—New OPBF junior middleweight titleholder Joo Ho made his first defense, as he knocked out Sumio Kai, JBC third contender, in only 2:38 of the first round in their scheduled 12-rounder. Unbeaten Joo improved his record to 13 victories (five by kayo) against one draw. Last November the tall Korean overwhelmed defending champ Tsutomu Hagusa, Japan, to wrest the crown by a fifth round knockout before the huge partisan crowd.

▲SEOUL, KOREA—The OPBF junior flyweight title changed hands from Chung Sang-Il to a fellow countryman named Kim Sung-Jun, who copped a split decision from the former in 12 heats. Chung, who had turned pro with his good amateur career to compile a 7-1-1 record, was outclassed by the more experienced lefthander. Kim, now 16-5-3, came to Tokyo last year to floor Shoji Oguma although he lost a decision at the end. He was a hard hitting southpaw whose gameness was admired in his next showing, though again decisioned by JBC champ Kazunori Tenryu.

▲PUSAN, KOREA—After the national junior middleweight title was relinquished by the current OPBF titlist, Joo Ho, an elimination took place by order of the KBC's. Kim Jung-Shik, a perennial contender, outpointed Oh Chang-Keun to become the new leader in the 154-pound class. Each weighed in at 153½.

In a companion tenner, KPBF bantamweight champ Kim Yung-Shik engaged in a non-title go with Tsuyoshi Okabe, Japan's ex-titlist dethroned by Go Numata last year, winning a unanimous decision. Both scaled in at 199 pounds.

▲SEOUL, KOREA—National middleweight ruler Park Nam-Yong, 159½, lost to Kang Heung-Won, 160, over 10 unanimous round, saying a farewell to the KBC crown. Park had suffered a bad upset kayo at the hands of Toshiaki Suzuki in his native Korea last year and has seemed to lack his previous zip ever since.

Junior feather champ Chung Soon-Hyun, 122¾, earned an impressive triumph in stopping Japanese Futaro Tanaka, 123 pounds, in the second round of a scheduled tenner. In round two, Chung connected well with solid one-twos which rocked Tanaka badly enough. The Korean followed up hard to deck his rival, who stood up staggering, not to regain his form and to be counted out in his own corner. Chung, who now tabbed four straight kayos, is said to be the next hope to fight WBA champ Hong Soo-Hwan in Korea.

▲SEOUL, KOREA—Filipino newcomer San Sacristan, 121¾, defeated Park Chun-Ha, Korea's bantam champ, by a unanimous nod in 10. Park Hyung-Il, junior lightweight top contender at 136¼, decisively beat Flash Kiston, another foreigner weighing at 135½, in 10 frames.

▲SEOUL, KOREA—Penguin Promotion's card saw the new junior flyweight champ of the country in Kim Yong-Yun's unanimous decision over Kim Mak-Dong, a quarter pound heavier at 108, in a 10 round eliminator.

In a companion tenner, Kim Sung-Jun, 113¼, scored a fifth round kayo over Ha Kyung-Ju, KBC No. 5 flyweight, in the scheduled tune-up go for Kim to prepare for his crack at the OPBF title in the 108-pound class. The loser, Ha, was heavier by 3½ pounds than the ex-national champ.

▲BURI RAM, THAILAND—Sensational former kick boxer Sakad Porntavee, WBC No. 3 super bantamweight contender, was the man who had beaten formidable Mexican Juan Antonio Lopez in his debut last November to appear in the international rating in the 122-pound class. Sakad faced Japan's top contender Hisami Mizuno, whom he attacked with whiplash lefts repeatedly to demolish in six good rounds.

IVBA ROUNDUP

By Scoop Gallello

Jack Lotz, former boxer out of Yonkers, N.Y., who is licensed as a boxing and wrestling referee by the N.Y. State Athletic Comm., was recently selected as the "Referee of the Year" by the Wide World Wrestling Association. Jack is also the first V.P. of the Westchester County Veteren Boxers Ring #30.

Mickey Walker, former great middleweight champion who is in a rest home in New Jersey, receives periodical visits from many friends in boxing. One of the more steady visitors is former pugilist Frankie Martin of Yonkers, N.Y. On Frankie's last visit to the former "Toy Bulldog," he reported that Mickey looked in "great shape," and with a little "prodding," he recalled many fistic incidents of the past.

Some months back, your reporter sent out thousands of raffle cards, with the proceeds earmarked to assist a close brother member. The results have been rather disappointing, with just a few ring groups participating. Will not name the rings that did not aid the cause, but feel it befitting to name those that did. A great thanks to the real dedicated boxing men of rings 102 of Paterson, N.J.: ⅛?½ OF Rome, N.Y.; 105 of Harrisburg, Pa.; Ring 30 of Westchester County; Ring 32 of Detroit, Mich.; Ring 76 of Syracuse, N.Y.; Ring 26 of Schnectady, N.Y. Joe & Mike Handley; Georgie Martin of Ring 7 of Massachusetts.

I presume the economy must be real bad.

Chico Vejar, former Welterweight and Middleweight contender is busy these days as sports co-ordinator for the Westchester County Cerebral Palsy Assoc. His job is to stage athletic events in order to raise funds for this very worthwhile cause. The "Jimmy Vejar" day camp, named in memory of his dearly departed son, is a source of aid to those afflicted with this crippling disease. There, a youngster is taught to walk, talk, and perform all the normal human functions. Chico is certainly a credit to boxing, as well as a credit to humanity. We, the veteran boxers, are proud to call him "One of Us".

IVBA Ring #32, of Detroit, Michigan is busy these days setting up a "Morrie Sherman Memorial Fund" in honor of the late boxer. This fund is for the purpose of aiding veteran boxers in financial distress. Morrie's widow, Barbara, was recently stricken, and went into a coma, but she is now on the road to recovery. Send any donations to either Prexy Quill Pettway or Johnny Lebow.

Chester Rico, former flashy Lightweight from the Bronx, N.Y., IS NOW RESIDING IN Las Vegas, Nevada, employed as a security guard.

Ben Jeby, former king of the Middleweights, is busy training youngsters in the local gyms. At this writing, he has a few Golden Gloves entrants such as Larry McKeever, 118 lbs.; Mike Ruppert, 214 lbs., and Featherweight Walter Vargas. Good luck Champ.

Tony Tufo, former Hell's Kitchen ringster is now residing in the capital district area where he is busy training some 160 ring hopefuls. He is aided by former pugilists Luke Rocco and Nick Delavilla. Nick, for many years was a sparring mate to former Middleweight champion Joey Giardello. Tony lists the best dozen bouts he has witnessed in his lifetime. Here they are:—Al Roth vs Lenny Del Genio; Marty Pomerantz vs Johnny Horstman; Lou Camps vs Joey Zodda; Wes Ramey vs Steve Halaiko; Bobby Pacho vs Al Casimini; Cleto Locatelli vs Izzy Janazzo; Julie Katz vs Jerry Mezza; Eddie Mader vs Hank Hankinson; Sixto Escobar vs Baby Cassanova; Lew Feldman vs Mike Belloise; Pedro Montanez vs Phil Rafferty and Tony Falco vs Harry Dubinsky. Tony says these bouts were all "wars". What are your top 12 boxing bouts?

Tommy O'Toole, attorney for IVBA ring #30 of Westchester county, has been recently appointed to the position of City Court Judge. For the last few years he was a Councilman elect, and before that, for many years, an F.B.I. Agent. He is a local boy who really made good and whose credentials are too numerous to mention here.

Former world's Welter champion Kid Galilan is employed as a boxing teacher at the "Spanish Speaking Center" in Harrisburg, Pa. This group survives on Donations, any help in that area should be mailed to Miss Patricia Louque, 301 South 13th Street, Harrisburg, Pa. 17104.

Veteran Boxing Groups Everywhere—beware of a group who call themselves "Planetary Resort for Youth" located in Monsey, N.Y. and directed by Jacques Michel. On Sat., Oct. 16, 1976, this group held a boxing extravaganza which included the likes of Kid Gavilan, Willie Pep, Howard Davis, Frankie Corvino, Steve Belloise, Corp. Izzy Schwartz, Irv Silverman, Emile Griffith, Bobby Halpern, Harold Valan, Chico Vejar, Ronnie Cohen, Pickle Hynes, Jackie Lotz, Rocky Graziano, and a host of other ring greats.

It was a great show, but sad to say a few checks were "bounced"—one to Bob Cremins for the rental of the ring—which to this date has not been paid. Rocky Graziano and Emile Griffith still haven't been re-imbursed. Letters, phone calls, threats of suit etc., have not moved this group. It is a sad situation when a professional performs and is cheated out of his money. This group should be blacklisted by all the veteran boxer's organizations.

Boxing fans in the metropolitan area—don't forget to attend the 23rd, annual dinner-dance of New York's ring #8 at the Carlyle Restaurant, on Ave. "D" & 43rd. St., Brooklyn, N.Y., on Sunday afternoon Feb. 19, 1978—honoring Floyd Patterson, Nat Loubet, Abe Berman, and Al Reid.

The Oldtimers Boxing Club, of Auburn, N.Y. are holding their annual bash on Saturday evening, May 6th, 1978, at their clubhouse in that area.

IVBA ring #102, of Paterson, N.J., are holding their annual banquet on Friday Feb. 24th 1978, at the Mountainside Inn, 509 Hazel St., Clifton, N.J. New Officers will be installed at this bash, with tickets going for $15.00 per person. Stan Heidelbach is the new prexy, taking over the leadership from the very personable Champ Snell.

Harry K. Wall, roving good will ambassador for the IVBA recently left Honolula, Hawaii—where he aided in organizing ring #50—and is now in Arizona, attempting to organize in that area. He is a dedicated former pugilist who devotes much time in boxing affairs minus any monetary gain.

IVBA ring #30, of Westchester County, announces the date of its annual dinner-dance as Sat. evening, June 24th, at the famous Glen Island Casino in New Rochelle, N.Y. Being honored thus far are—The Manassa Mauler, Jack Dempsey, who is being acclaimed as "The greatest living former Heavyweight champion"; The "Luke Bauer" Humanitarian Award is slated for singer Frank Sinatra; the "Fighter of the Year" award goes to 45 year old Heavyweight boxer Bobby Halpern. Other honorees will be announced at a later date.

The first copy of "Boxing World" reached me, and have to admit that it is a "dynamite boxing tabloid". It contains 28 pages of boxing stories, results, predictions and facts. It is well worth the fifty cents price per copy. In fact, I don't know how they do it at this price. A "scoop salute" to publisher Irv Abramson, editor Hank Kaplan, assoc. editor Alan Clevens, and consultant Tom Masatto.

When writing letters that require an answer please send along stamped self addressed envelope.

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Kings, 17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine; Longs, 18 mg. "tar",
1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Aug. '77